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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

FORTY-EIGHT VOLUMES.

— (45.) —

STATE PAPERS.

THE PRINCE OF WALES' MARRIAGE; BELGIUM;
BELGRADE; BRAZIL; CHINA; DAHOMEY, KING OF;
DARDANELLES AND ALEXANDRIA TELEGRAPH; GREECE.

Session

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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

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FORTY-EIGHT VOLUMES:—CONTENTS OF THE FORTY-FIFTH VOLUME.

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TREATY

BETWEEN

HER MAJESTY

AND

THE KING OF DENMARK,

FOR THE

MARRIAGE

OF

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS

THE PRINCE OF WALES

WITH

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS

THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA,

DAUGHTER OF PRINCE CHRISTIAN

OF DENMARK.

Signed at Copenhagen, January 15, 1863.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

1863.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

TREATY between Her Majesty and the King of Denmark, for the
Marriage of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales with
Her Royal Highness the Princess Alexandra, Daughter of
Prince Christian of Denmark.

Signed at Copenhagen, January 15, 1863.

[Ratifications exchanged at Copenhagen, February 4, 1863.]

In the Name of the Holy and Blessed Trinity.

I den Hellige og Höilovede Treenigheds Navn.

BE it known unto all men by these presents, that whereas Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, on the one part, and His Majesty the King of Denmark, on the other part, being already connected by ties of friendship, have judged it proper that an alliance should be contracted between their respective Royal Houses, by a marriage agreed to on both sides, between His Royal Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, Duke of Saxony, Prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, &c., &c., eldest Son of Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of His Royal Highness the Prince Consort, Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and Her Royal Highness the Princess Alexandra Caroline Maria Charlotte Louisa Julia, eldest Daughter of His Royal Highness the Prince Christian of Denmark;

The two High betrothed Parties, as also His Royal Highness the Prince Christian of Denmark, and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louisa Wilhelmina Frederica Caroline Augusta Julia, His Royal Highness' Consort, having declared their consent to such alliance; in order, therefore, to attain so desirable an end, and to treat upon, conclude, and confirm the Articles of the said marriage, Her Britannic Majesty on the one part, and His Majesty the King of Denmark on the other, have named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:—

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland,

DET bringes herved til almindelig Kundskab, at, saasom Hendes Majestæt Dronningen af det Forenede Kongerige Storbritannien og Irland paa den ene Side, og Hans Majestæt Kongen af Danmark paa den anden Side, allerede sammenknyttede ved Venskabs Baand, have fundet for godt at stifte en Forbindelse imellem Deres respective Kongelige Huse ved Indgaaelsen af et fra begge Sider bifaldet Ægteskab imellem Hans Kongelige Höihed Albert Edward Prinds af Wales, Hertug af Sachsen, Prinds af Sachsen-Coburg og Gotha, &c., &c., Hendes Majestæt Dronningen af det Forenede Kongerige Storbritannien og Irlands og Hans Kongelige Höihed Prindsgemalen, Prinds Albert af Sachsen Coburg og Gothas ældste Søn, og Hendes Kongelige Höihed Prindsesse Alexandra Caroline Marie Charlotte Louise Julie, Hans Kongelige Höihed Prinds Christian til Danmarks ældste Datter; saa have, efterat de to Höie Forlovede, saavelsom Hans Kongelige Höihed Prinds Christian til Danmark og Höisammes Gemalinde, Hendes Kongelige Höihed Prindsesse Louise Wilhelmine Frederikke Caroline Auguste Julie, have givet Deres Samtykke til den ommeldte Forbindelse, Hendes Britiske Majestæt paa den ene Side, og Hans Majestæt Kongen af Danmark paa den anden Side, til Deres Befuldmægtigede til Opnaaelsen af hiint saa ønskelige Formaal, samt for at underhandle om, afslutte og vedtage de nærmere Bestemmelser vedkommende det omhandlede Ægteskab, udnøevnt:

Hendes Majestæt Dronningen af det Forenede Kongerige Storbritannien og Ir-

Augustus Berkeley Paget, Esquire, Her Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to His Majesty the King of Denmark;

And His Majesty the King of Denmark, His Excellency Carl Christian Hall, His Majesty's Privy Councillor of Conferences, President of the Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Grand Cross of the Order of Dannebrog, decorated with the Cross of the Dannebrog, Grand Cross of the Royal Swedish Order of the Star of the North, of the Royal Norwegian Order of St. Olaf, of the Royal Sicilian Order of Constantine, of the Royal Spanish Order of Charles the Third, of the Persian Order of the Sun and Lion, of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, of the Royal Italian Order of St. Mauritius and St. Lazarus, and of the Tunisian Order of Nichan Eftikhar;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:—

ARTICLE I.

It is concluded and agreed that the marriage between His Royal Highness Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Duke of Saxony, Prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, &c., &c., eldest son of Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of His Royal Highness the Prince Consort, Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and Her Royal Highness the Princess Alexandra Caroline Maria Charlotte Louisa Julia, eldest daughter of His Royal Highness the Prince Christian of Denmark, shall be solemnized in person, in that part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland called Great Britain, according to the due tenour of the laws of England, and the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England, as soon as the same may conveniently be done.

ARTICLE II.

Her Britannic Majesty engages that His Royal Highness Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Duke of Saxony, Prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, &c., &c., shall secure to Her Royal Highness the Princess Alexandra Caroline Maria Charlotte Louisa Julia, out of any revenues belonging to His Royal Highness or granted to Their Royal Highnesses by Parliament, the annual sum of ten thousand pounds, to be paid half-yearly to Her Royal Highness for Her sole and separate use, and without any power of anticipation, during the period of Their Royal Highnesses' marriage.

land, Herr Augustus Berkeley Paget, Hende Overordentlige Gesandt og Befuldmægtigede Minister hos Hans Majestæt Kongen af Danmark; og Hans Majestæt Kongen af Danmark, Hans Excellence Herr Carl Christian Hall, Hans Majestæts Geheimeconferentsraad, Conseils Præsident og Udenrigsminister, Storkors af Dannebrogordenen, Dannebrogsmænd, Storkors af den Kongelige Svenske Nordstjerneorden, af den Kongelig Norske St. Olafs Orden, af den Kongelig Sicilianske Constantins Orden, af den Kongelig Spanske Carl den Tredies Orden, af den Persiske Sol og Löve Orden, af den Kongelig Hannoveranske Guelphic Orden, af den Kongelig Italienske St. Mauritius og St. Lazarus Orden, og af den Tunesiske Nichan Eftikhar Orden;

Hvilke, efterat have meddeelt hinanden deres respective Fuldmagter, som befandtes i god og rigtig Form, ere komne overeens om og have afsluttet følgende Artikler:—

ARTIKEL I.

Det er besluttet og vedtaget, at Ægteskabet imellem Hans Kongelige Höihed Albert Edward Prinds af Wales, Hertug af Sachsen, Prinds af Sachsen-Coburg og Gotha, &c., &c., Hendes Majestæt Dronningen af det Forenede Kongerige Storbritannien og Irlands, og Hans Kongelige Höihed Prindsgemalen, Prinds Albert af Sachsen-Coburg og Gothas ældste Søn, og Hendes Kongelige Höihed Prindsesse Alexandra Caroline Marie Charlotte Louise Julie, Hans Kongelige Höihed Prinds Christian til Danmarks ældste Datter, skal indgaaes personlig, saasomt som dette lader sig gjøre, i den Deel af det Forenede Kongerige Storbritannien og Irland, der kaldes Storbritannien, i Overeensstemmelse med de Engelske Loves Forskrifter, samt efter den Engelske Kirkes Ritus og Cereemonier.

ARTIKEL II.

Hendes Britiske Majestæt lover, at Hans Kongelige Höihed Albert Edward Prinds af Wales, Hertug af Sachsen, Prinds af Sachsen-Coburg og Gotha, &c., &c., skal sikkre Hendes Kongelige Höihed Prindsesse Alexandra Caroline Marie Charlotte Louise Julie, af Indtægter, der tilhøre Hans Kongelige Höihed eller maatte blive Deres Kongelige Höiheder tilstaaede af Parlamentet, en aarlig Sum af Ti Tusinde Pund, at betale under Deres Kongelige Höiheders Ægteskab til Hendes Kongelige Höihed halvaarlig, til Hendes udelukkende og særskilte Brug, saaiedes at bemeldte Sum ikke udbetales forskudsviis.

ARTICLE III.

Her Britannic Majesty engages to recommend to Her Parliament that Her Majesty shall be enabled to secure to Her Royal Highness the Princess Alexandra Caroline Maria Charlotte Louisa Julia, in case Her Royal Highness should have the misfortune to become the widow of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the annual sum or payment of thirty thousand pounds sterling money of Great Britain, in lieu of dower; the said sum being, in such case, to be paid by quarterly payments to Her said Royal Highness or to Her assigns.

ARTICLE IV.

The present Treaty shall be ratified by Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and by His Majesty the King of Denmark, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Copenhagen as soon as possible.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

Done at Copenhagen, the fifteenth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

A. B. PAGET. (L.S.)
C. C. HALL. (L.S.)

ARTIKEL III.

Hendes Britiske Majestæt forbinder Sig til at foreslaae Sit Parlament, at Hendes Majestæt sættes istand til at sikkre Hendes Kongelige Höihed Prindsesse Alexandra Caroline Marie Charlotte Louise Julie, for det Tilfælde, at Hendes Kongelige Höihed skulde have den Ulykke at blive Enke efter Hans Kongelige Höihed Prindsen af Wales, den aarlige Sum eller Udbetaling af Tredive Tusinde Pund Sterling, Storbritannisk Mönt, som Livgeding, saaledes, at bemeldte Sum, i det omhandlede Tilfælde, bliver at udbetale i quartalsvise Rater, til Hendes nævnte Kongelige Höihed eller Hendes Befuldmægtigede.

ARTIKEL IV.

Nærværende Tractat skal ratificeres af Hendes Majestæt Dronningen af det Forenede Kongerige Storbritannien og Irland, og Hans Majestæt Kongen af Danmark, og Ratificationerne skulle udvexles i Kjöbenhavn saasnart som muligt.

Til Bekræftelse heraf have de fra begge Sider Befuldmægtigede undertegnet bemeldte Tractat, og forsynet samme med et Aftryk af deres respective Vaaben.

Saaledes skeet i Kjöbenhavn, den femtende Dag i Januar Maaned, i Herrens Aar Eet Tusinde Otte Hundrede og Tre og Tredsindstyve.

A. B. PAGET. (L.S.)
C. C. HALL. (L.S.)

TREATY between Her Majesty and the
King of Denmark, for the Marriage of
His Royal Highness the Prince of
Wales with Her Royal Highness the
Princess Alexandra, Daughter of Prince
Christian of Denmark.

Signed at Copenhagen, January 15, 1863.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1863.*

TREATY
OF
COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION
BETWEEN
HER MAJESTY
AND THE
KING OF THE BELGIANS.

Signed at London, July 23, 1862.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

TREATY of Commerce and Navigation between Her Majesty and the King of the Belgians.

Signed at London, July 23, 1862.

[Ratifications exchanged at London, August 30, 1862.]

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Majesty the King of the Belgians, being equally animated by the desire to facilitate and extend the relations of commerce and navigation between their respective dominions ; and being desirous, with a view to so beneficial an object, to remove the obstacles which impede the commercial relations between the two countries, have resolved to conclude a Treaty for that purpose, and have named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say :

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Honourable John Earl Russell, Viscount Amberley of Amberley and Ardsalla, a Peer of the United Kingdom, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, a Member of Her Britannic Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs ; and the Right Honourable Thomas Milner Gibson, a Member of Her Britannic Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, a Member of Parliament, and President of the Committee of Privy Council for Affairs of Trade and Foreign Plantations ;

And His Majesty the King of the Belgians, the Sieur Sylvain Van de Weyer, His Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Her Britannic Majesty, Grand Cross of the Order of Leopold, decorated with the Iron Cross, Grand Cross of the Order of Charles III of Spain, of the Order of the Ernestine Branch of Saxony, of the Tower and Sword, of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus, Commander of the Legion of Honour, &c. ;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following Articles :—

SA Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, et Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, animés d'un égal désir de faciliter et d'étendre les rapports de commerce et de navigation entre leurs Etats respectifs ; et voulant, pour arriver à un but si utile, faire disparaître les obstacles qui entravent les relations commerciales entre les deux pays, ont résolu de conclure un Traité à cet effet, et ont nommé pour leurs Plénipotentiaires, savoir :

Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, le Très Honorable Jean Comte Russell, Vicomte Amberley de Amberley et Ardsalla, Pair du Royaume Uni, Chevalier du Très Noble Ordre de la Jarretière, Membre du Très Honorable Conseil Privé de Sa Majesté Britannique, Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique pour les Affaires Etrangères ; et le Très Honorable Thomas Milner Gibson, Membre du Très Honorable Conseil Privé de Sa Majesté Britannique, Membre du Parlement, et Président du Comité du Conseil Privé pour les Affaires de Commerce et des Colonies ;

Et Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, le Sieur Sylvain Van de Weyer, Son Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire près Sa Majesté Britannique, Grand-Croix de l'Ordre de Léopold, décoré de la Croix de Fer, Grand-Croix de l'Ordre de Charles III d'Espagne, de l'Ordre de la Branche Ernestine de Saxe, de la Tour et de l'Epée, de St. Maurice et St. Lazare, Commandeur de Légion d'Honneur, &c. ;

Lesquels, après s'être réciproquement communiqué leurs pleins pouvoirs respectifs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, sont convenus des Articles suivants :—

ARTICLE I.

There shall be reciprocal liberty of commerce between all the dominions and possessions of the two High Contracting Parties; and the subjects of each of them shall, throughout the whole extent of the territories and possessions of the other, enjoy the same rights, privileges, liberties, favours, immunities, and exemptions, in matters of commerce and navigation, which are or may be enjoyed by native subjects.

ARTICLE II.

The subjects of one of the two High Contracting Parties residing in the dominions of the other, shall have the same liberty as native subjects to manage their own affairs themselves, or to commit them to the management of any other persons, as brokers, factors, agents, or interpreters. They shall not be restrained in their choice, and shall not be obliged to pay any salary or remuneration to any person whom they shall not choose to employ in those capacities; buyers and sellers being at perfect liberty to bargain together, and to fix the price of any goods or merchandize imported or destined for exportation, on condition of observing the regulations and the Customs laws of the country.

ARTICLE III.

In all that relates to navigation and commerce, the High Contracting Parties shall not grant any privilege, favour, or immunity to any other country, which shall not be also and immediately extended to their respective subjects.

ARTICLE IV.

All vessels which according to the laws of Great Britain are to be deemed British vessels, and all vessels which according to the laws of Belgium are to be deemed Belgian vessels, are declared to be British and Belgian vessels respectively.

ARTICLE V.

No duties of tonnage, harbour, light-house, pilotage, quarantine, or other similar or corresponding duties, of whatever nature or under whatever denomination, levied for the profit or in the name of the Government, public functionaries, *communes*, corporations, or establishments of whatever kind, shall be imposed in the ports of either country, upon the vessels of the other country, from whatever port or place arriving, which shall not be equally imposed in the like cases on national vessels.

ARTICLE I.

Il y aura liberté réciproque de commerce entre tous les Etats et possessions des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes; et les sujets de chacune d'elles, dans toute l'étendue des territoires et possessions de l'autre, jouiront des mêmes droits, privilèges, libertés, faveurs, immunités, et exemptions, en matière de commerce et de navigation, dont jouissent ou jouiront les nationaux.

ARTICLE II.

Les sujets de l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes résidant dans les Etats de l'autre, seront respectivement libres de régler, comme les nationaux, leurs affaires par eux-mêmes, ou de les confier aux soins de toutes autres personnes, telles que courtiers, facteurs, agents, ou interprètes. Ils ne pourront être contraints dans leur choix, et ils ne seront tenus à payer aucun salaire ni aucune rétribution à ceux qu'ils n'auront pas jugé à propos d'employer à cet effet; étant absolument facultatif aux vendeurs et acheteurs de contracter ensemble leur marché, et de fixer le prix de toutes denrées ou marchandises importées ou destinées à l'exportation, sous la condition de se conformer aux règlements et aux lois des douanes du pays.

ARTICLE III.

En tout ce qui concerne la navigation et le commerce, les Hautes Parties Contractantes ne pourront accorder aucun privilège, faveur, ou immunité à un autre Etat, qui ne soit aussi et à l'instant étendu à leurs sujets respectifs.

ARTICLE IV.

Tous les navires qui, d'après les lois de la Grande Bretagne, sont considérés comme navires Britanniques, et tous les navires qui, d'après les lois de la Belgique sont considérés comme navires Belges, sont déclarés respectivement navires Britanniques et navires Belges.

ARTICLE V.

Aucun droit de tonnage, de port, de phare, de pilotage, de quarantaine, ou autres droits semblables ou équivalents, de quelque nature ou sous quelque dénomination que ce soit, perçu au profit ou au nom du Gouvernement, des fonctionnaires publics, des communes, corporations, ou établissements quelconques, ne sera imposé dans les ports de chacun des deux pays sur les navires de l'autre nation, arrivant d'un port ou endroit quelconque, qui ne soit pas également imposé en pareil cas sur des navires nationaux.

ARTICLE VI.

In all that regards the stationing, the loading, and unloading of vessels in the ports, basins, docks, roadsteads, harbours, or rivers of the two countries, no privilege shall be granted to national vessels, which shall not be equally granted to vessels of the other country; the intention of the High Contracting Parties being, that in this respect also the respective vessels shall be treated on the footing of perfect equality.

ARTICLE VII.

British vessels entering a port of Belgium, and, reciprocally, Belgian vessels entering a port of Great Britain or of the British Possessions, and desiring to discharge only a part of their cargo, may, subject to compliance with the laws and regulations of the respective countries, retain on board that part of the cargo which is destined for another port, whether in the same country or in any other country, and may re-export the same, without being compelled to pay, upon such retained part of their cargo, any duty of Customs save those for watching, which, of course, shall be levied only at the rate fixed for national vessels.

ARTICLE VIII.

Goods of every kind which are or may be legally importable into the ports of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, its Colonies and Possessions, in British vessels, may likewise be imported into such ports in Belgian vessels, without being liable to other or higher duties, of whatever denomination, than if such goods were imported in national vessels.

Reciprocally, goods of every kind which are or may be legally importable into the ports of Belgium in Belgian vessels, may likewise be imported into such ports in British vessels, without being liable to other or higher duties, of whatever denomination, than if such goods were imported in national vessels.

ARTICLE IX.

Goods of every kind which may be exported either from Belgium by British vessels, or from Great Britain and the British Possessions by Belgian vessels, for whatever destination, shall not be liable to any other duties or formalities on departure than if they were exported in national vessels; and they shall enjoy, under either flag, all bounties and drawbacks, or other favours,

ARTICLE VI.

En tout ce qui concerne le placement des navires, leur chargement et leur déchargement dans les ports, bassins, docks, rades, hâvres, ou rivières des deux Etats, il ne sera accordé aucun privilège aux navires nationaux, qui ne le soit également à ceux de l'autre Etat; la volonté des Hautes Parties Contractantes étant que, sous ce rapport aussi, les bâtimens respectifs soient traités sur le pied d'une parfaite égalité.

ARTICLE VII.

Les navires Britanniques entrant dans un port de Belgique, et réciproquement les navires Belges entrant dans un port de la Grande Bretagne ou de ses Possessions, et qui n'y voudraient décharger qu'une partie de leur cargaison, pourront, en se conformant toutefois aux lois et réglemens des Etats respectifs, conserver à leur bord la partie de la cargaison qui serait destinée à un autre port, soit du même pays, soit d'un autre, et la ré-exporter, sans être astreints à payer pour cette dernière partie de leur cargaison aucun droit de douane, sauf ceux de surveillance, lesquels, d'ailleurs, ne pourront naturellement être perçus qu'au taux fixé pour la navigation nationale.

ARTICLE VIII.

Les marchandises de toute espèce dont l'importation dans les ports du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, ses Colonies et Possessions, est ou sera légalement permise sur des bâtimens Britanniques, pourront également y être importées sur des bâtimens Belges, sans être assujetties à d'autres ou de plus forts droits, de quelque dénomination que ce soit, que si les mêmes marchandises étaient importées sur des bâtimens nationaux.

Réciproquement, les marchandises de toute espèce dont l'importation dans les ports de Belgique est ou sera légalement permise sur des bâtimens Belges, pourront également y être importés sur des bâtimens Britanniques, sans être assujetties à d'autres ou de plus forts droits, de quelque dénomination que ce soit, que si les mêmes marchandises étaient importées sur des bâtimens nationaux.

ARTICLE IX.

Les marchandises de toute nature qui seront exportées de Belgique par navires Britanniques, ou de la Grande Bretagne et de ses Possessions par navires Belges, pour quelque destination que ce soit, ne seront pas assujetties à d'autres droits ni formalités de sortie que si elles étaient exportées par navires nationaux; et elles jouiront, sous l'un et l'autre pavillon, de

which are or may be granted in each of the two countries to national vessels.

ARTICLE X.

During the period allowed by the laws of the two countries for the warehousing of goods, no other duties than those for custody and storage shall be levied upon articles imported from one of the two countries into the other, until they shall be removed for transit, re-exportation, or internal consumption.

In no case shall such articles pay higher duties, or be liable to other formalities, than if they had been imported under the national flag, or from the most favoured country.

ARTICLE XI.

Goods of every kind coming from or going to either of the two countries shall reciprocally be exempted from all transit duty.

The prohibition in regard to gunpowder is, however, maintained; and the two High Contracting Parties reserve to themselves to subject the transit of arms of war to special authorizations.

The treatment of the most favoured nation is reciprocally guaranteed to each of the two countries in all that concerns transit and warehousing.

ARTICLE XII.

With regard to the coasting trade, it is agreed between the High Contracting Parties that the subjects and vessels of each of them shall, in the dominions and possessions of the other, enjoy the same privileges, and be treated in all respects on the same footing, as national subjects and vessels.

With regard to the coasting trade in the Colonies, the stipulations of the present Article shall be applicable only to the coasting trade of such of the Colonies of Her Britannic Majesty as have applied or shall hereafter apply, in conformity with the Acts of Parliament which govern this matter, that their coasting trade may be open to foreign vessels.

ARTICLE XIII.

The regulations established for goods imported from France into Belgium by Articles XVIII to XXVI inclusive, of the Treaty of Commerce concluded between the two countries on the 1st of May, 1861, shall equally apply in Belgium to the same goods imported from Great Britain and its Possessions.

toutes primes ou restitutions de droits, ou autres faveurs, qui sont ou seront accordées, dans chacun des deux pays, à la navigation nationale.

ARTICLE X.

Pendant le temps fixé par les lois des deux pays respectivement pour l'entrepôt des marchandises, il ne sera perçu aucuns droits autres que ceux de garde et d'emmagasinage sur les objets importés de l'un des deux pays dans l'autre, en attendant leur transit, leur réexportation, ou leur mise en consommation.

Ces objets, en aucun cas, ne paieront de plus forts droits, et ne seront assujettis à d'autres formalités, que s'ils avaient été importés sous pavillon national, ou provenaient du pays le plus favorisé.

ARTICLE XI.

Les marchandises de toute nature venant de l'un des deux Etats, ou y allant, seront réciproquement exemptes, dans l'autre Etat, de tout droit de transit.

Toutefois, la prohibition est maintenue pour la poudre à tirer; et les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes se réservent de soumettre à des autorisations spéciales le transit des armes de guerre.

Le traitement de la nation la plus favorisée est réciproquement garanti à chacun des deux pays pour tout ce qui concerne le transit et l'entrepôt.

ARTICLE XII.

En ce qui concerne le cabotage, il est convenu entre les Hautes Parties Contractantes que les sujets et les navires de chacune d'elles jouiront, dans les Etats et possessions de l'autre, des mêmes privilèges, et seront traités à tous égards sur le même pied, que les sujets et les navires nationaux.

En ce qui concerne le cabotage dans les Colonies, les stipulations du présent Article ne seront applicables qu'au cabotage de celles d'entre les Colonies de Sa Majesté Britannique qui ont demandé ou qui demanderont ultérieurement, conformément aux Actes du Parlement qui régissent cette matière, que leur cabotage soit ouvert aux navires étrangers.

ARTICLE XIII.

Les règles consacrées pour les marchandises importées de France en Belgique, par les Articles XVIII à XXVI inclus, du Traité de Commerce conclu entre ces deux Etats le 1er Mai, 1861, s'appliqueront également en Belgique aux mêmes marchandises importées de la Grande Bretagne et de ses Possessions.

With regard to pure or mixed tissues, taxed *ad valorem*, the valuation of which in the ports may appear to the Belgian Government to present difficulties, the Belgian Government reserves to itself the power to designate the Custom-house of Brussels exclusively for the admission of such goods.

ARTICLE XIV.

Neither of the two High Contracting Parties shall impose upon goods the produce or manufacture of the other party, other or higher duties of importation than such as are or may be imposed upon the same goods the produce of any other foreign country.

Each of the two Parties engages to extend to the other any favour or privilege, or reduction in the Tariff of duties of importation or exportation, on articles mentioned, or not mentioned, in the present Treaty, which either of them may grant to any third Power. They engage, moreover, not to establish against each other any duty or prohibition of importation or exportation, which shall not, at the same time, be applicable to all other nations.

It is further agreed that if sea salt refined in Belgium should obtain a deduction of more than seven per cent. from the general duty of excise, British salt refined in Belgium shall enjoy, at the same moment, a deduction from the excise which shall not be inferior by more than seven per cent. to the deduction granted to sea salt.

ARTICLE XV.

Articles the produce or manufacture of Belgium shall not be subject in the British Colonies to other or higher duties than those which are or may be imposed upon similar articles of British origin.

ARTICLE XVI.

The subjects of one of the High Contracting Parties shall enjoy, in the dominions of the other, the same protection as native subjects in all that relates to property in trade marks, as well as in industrial and manufacturing patterns and models of every description.

The exclusive right to make use of an industrial or manufacturing pattern or model shall not, with regard to British subjects in Belgium, and reciprocally with regard to Belgian subjects in Great Britain, have a duration longer than that fixed by the law of the country for native subjects.

If the industrial or manufacturing pattern or model is open to the public in the

A l'égard des tissus purs ou mélangés, taxés à la valeur, dont l'estimation dans les ports lui paraîtrait présenter des difficultés, le Gouvernement Belge se réserve la faculté de désigner exclusivement la Douane de Bruxelles pour l'admission de ces marchandises.

ARTICLE XIV.

Ni l'une ni l'autre des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes n'imposera sur les marchandises provenant du sol ou de l'industrie de l'autre partie, d'autres ni de plus forts droits d'importation que ceux qui sont ou seront imposés sur les mêmes marchandises provenant de tout autre Etat étranger.

Chacune des deux Parties s'engage à faire profiter l'autre de toute faveur, de tout privilège, ou abaissement dans les Tarifs des droits à l'importation ou à l'exportation des articles mentionnés ou non dans le présent Traité, que l'une d'elles pourrait accorder à une tierce Puissance. Elles s'engagent, en outre, à n'établir l'une envers l'autre aucun droit ou prohibition d'importation ou d'exportation, qui ne soit en même temps applicable aux autres nations.

Il est convenu, enfin, que si les sels marins raffinés en Belgique venaient à obtenir une déduction de plus de sept pour cent du droit général de l'accise, le sel Britannique raffiné en Belgique jouira, à l'instant même, d'une déduction de l'accise qui ne pourra être inférieure de plus de sept pour cent à la déduction accordée aux sels marins.

ARTICLE XV.

Les produits d'origine ou de manufacture Belge ne seront pas grevés dans les Colonies Britanniques d'autres ou de plus forts droits que ceux qui frappent ou frapperont les produits similaires originaires de la Grande Bretagne.

ARTICLE XVI.

Les sujets de l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes jouiront, dans les Etats de l'autre, de la même protection que les nationaux, pour tout ce qui concerne la propriété des marques de fabrique ou de commerce, ainsi que des dessins ou modèles industriels et de fabrique de toute espèce.

Le droit exclusif d'exploiter un dessin ou modèle industriel ou de fabrique ne peut avoir, au profit des sujets Britanniques en Belgique, et réciproquement au profit des Belges dans la Grande Bretagne, une durée plus longue que celle fixée par la loi du pays à l'égard des nationaux.

Si le dessin ou modèle industriel ou de fabrique appartient au domaine public dans

country of origin, it cannot be made the subject of an exclusive right in the other country.

The provisions of the two preceding paragraphs are applicable to trade marks.

The rights of subjects of one of the High Contracting Parties in the dominions of the other are not subject to the condition that the models or patterns shall be worked there.

The present Article shall not be put into operation in either country, with regard to such models or patterns, until the expiration of a year from the date of the signature of the present Treaty.

ARTICLE XVII.

Belgian subjects shall not have the right to claim in Great Britain exclusive property in a mark, model, or pattern, unless they shall have previously complied with the regulations, if any, which are or may be in force for the deposit at London, by British subjects, of marks, models, or patterns.

Reciprocally, British subjects shall not have the right to claim in Belgium exclusive property in a mark, model, or pattern, unless they shall have previously complied with the laws and regulations on those subjects which are or may be in force in Belgium.

ARTICLE XVIII.

Each of the High Contracting Parties shall have the right to name Consuls for the protection of trade in the dominions and territories of the other Party; and the Consuls who may be so appointed shall enjoy, within the territories of each Party, all the privileges, exemptions, and immunities which are or may be granted in those territories to Agents of the same rank and character appointed by or authorized to act for the Government of the most favoured nation.

Before any Consul can act as such, he must, however, in the usual form be approved and admitted by the Government of the country to which he is sent; and each of the two High Contracting Parties shall have the right to except from the residence of Consuls any particular places which either of them may judge proper to be excepted.

ARTICLE XIX.

If any vessel of war or merchant-vessel of either of the two countries should be wrecked upon the coasts of the other, such vessel, or any parts thereof, and all furniture

le pays d'origine, il ne peut être l'objet d'une jouissance exclusive dans l'autre pays.

Les dispositions des deux paragraphes qui précèdent sont applicables aux marques de fabrique ou de commerce.

Les droits des sujets de l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes dans les Etats de l'autre ne sont pas subordonnés à l'obligation d'y exploiter les modèles ou dessins industriels ou de fabrique.

Le présent Article ne recevra son exécution, dans l'un et l'autre pays, à l'égard des modèles ou dessins industriels ou de fabrique, qu'à l'expiration d'une année à dater du jour de la signature du présent Traité.

ARTICLE XVII.

Les Belges ne pourront revendiquer dans la Grande Bretagne la propriété exclusive d'une marque, d'un modèle, ou d'un dessin, s'ils ne se sont préalablement conformés aux règlements, s'il en est, qui sont ou seront en vigueur pour le dépôt à Londres, par les sujets Britanniques, des marques, modèles, ou dessins.

Réciproquement, les sujets Britanniques ne pourront revendiquer en Belgique la propriété exclusive d'une marque, d'un modèle, ou d'un dessin, s'ils ne se sont préalablement conformés aux lois et aux règlements sur cette matière qui sont ou seront en vigueur en Belgique.

ARTICLE XVIII.

Chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes aura le droit de nommer des Consuls pour la protection du commerce dans les Etats ou territoires de l'autre partie; et les Consuls qui seront nommés ainsi, jouiront dans les territoires de chaque Partie de tous les privilèges, exemptions, et immunités qui sont ou pourront être accordés dans ces Etats aux Agents du même rang et caractère nommés ou autorisés par le Gouvernement de la nation la plus favorisée.

Avant que quelque Consul puisse agir comme tel, il devra être approuvé et admis dans les formes usitées par le Gouvernement auprès duquel il est envoyé; et chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes aura la faculté d'excepter de la résidence des Consuls tels endroits spéciaux que chacune d'elles pourra juger à propos d'excepter.

ARTICLE XIX.

S'il arrivait que quelque vaisseau de guerre ou navire marchand de l'un des deux Etats fût naufragé sur les côtes de l'autre, ce bâtiment ou ses parties ou débris, ses agrès, et

and appurtenances belonging thereunto, as well as all goods and merchandize which shall be saved therefrom, or the proceeds thereof, if sold, shall be restored to the proprietors or to their agents, on being claimed by them. In case there should be no such proprietors or agents upon the spot, the said articles and goods, or the proceeds thereof, as well as all the papers found on board of any such vessel, shall be delivered to the British or Belgian Consul in whose district the wreck shall have taken place; and such Consul, proprietors, or agents shall not be called upon to pay any charge but the expenses incurred in the preservation of the property, and the same rate of salvage which would be equally payable, under the like circumstances, by a national vessel. The goods and merchandize saved from the wreck shall not be subject to the established duties, unless cleared for consumption.

ARTICLE XX.

The British flag shall continue to enjoy in Belgium the repayment of the Scheldt Toll so long as the Belgian flag shall enjoy the same.

ARTICLE XXI.

From and after, at latest, the day on which the capitalization of the Scheldt Toll shall be effected by a general arrangement,—

1. The tonnage duty imposed in Belgian ports shall cease to be levied;

2. The pilotage duties in Belgian ports and in the Scheldt, so far as depends upon Belgium, shall undergo a reduction—

Of 20 per cent. for sailing vessels;

Of 25 per cent. for vessels towed;

Of 30 per cent. for steam-vessels.

3. The system of local taxes imposed by the city of Antwerp shall be throughout diminished.

ARTICLE XXII.

As a temporary exception to the stipulations of Article XIV, and for the space of two years from the 1st of October, 1862, the new system shall be applied in the following manner to certain articles of British origin hereinafter enumerated:—

Cotton yarns twisted, warped, or dyed, shall pay the duties imposed upon single yarns unbleached or bleached, with an addition of five centimes for twisted yarns, ten centimes for warped yarns, and fifteen centimes for dyed yarns, per kilogramme.

The duty on stuff of wool mixed with cotton shall be twenty-two and a-half per cent. until the 1st of October, 1863, and twenty per cent until the 1st of October, 1864. During the continuance of the transi-

tous les objets qui y appartiendront, ainsi que tous les effets et marchandises qui en auront été sauvés, ou le produit de leur vente, en seront rendus aux propriétaires ou à leurs ayant-droits sur leur réclamation. Dans le cas où ceux-ci se trouveraient absents, les dits objets, marchandises, ou leur produit, seront consignés, ainsi que tous les papiers trouvés à bord de ce bâtiment, au Consul Britannique ou Belge dans le district duquel le naufrage aura eu lieu; et il ne sera exigé, soit du Consul, soit des propriétaires ou ayant-droits, que le paiement des dépenses faites pour la conservation de la propriété, et les mêmes droits de sauvetage ou autres qui seraient également payés, en pareille circonstance, par un bâtiment national. Les marchandises et effets sauvés du naufrage ne seront assujetties aux droits établis, qu'autant qu'ils seraient déclarés pour la consommation.

ARTICLE XX.

Le pavillon Britannique continuera à jouir en Belgique du remboursement du péage de l'Escaut, tant que le pavillon Belge en jouira lui-même.

ARTICLE XXI.

A partir, au plus tard, du jour où la capitalisation du péage de l'Escaut sera assurée par un arrangement général,—

1. Le droit de tonnage prélevé dans les ports Belges cessera d'être perçu.

2. Les droits de pilotage dans les ports Belges et dans l'Escaut, en tant qu'il dépendra de la Belgique, seront réduits—

De 20 pour cent pour les navires à voiles;

De 25 pour cent pour les navires remorqués;

De 30 pour cent pour les navires à vapeur.

3. Le régime des taxes locales imposées par la ville d'Anvers sera, dans son ensemble, dégrevé.

ARTICLE XXII.

Par dérogation provisoire à l'Article XIV, et pendant deux années à partir du 1er Octobre, 1862, le nouveau régime sera appliqué de la manière suivante aux produits d'origine Britannique ci-après dénommés:—

Les fils de coton tors, ourdis, ou teints, paieront les droits afférents aux fils simples, écrus ou blanchis, augmentés de cinq centimes pour les fils tors, de dix centimes pour les fils ourdis, et de quinze centimes pour les fils teints, par kilogramme.

Le droit sur les étoffes de laine mélangées de coton sera de vingt-deux et demi pour cent jusqu'au 1er Octobre, 1863, et de vingt pour cent jusqu'au 1er Octobre, 1864. Pendant la durée du régime transitoire,

tory system the importer may, at his choice, pay either one hundred and eighty francs the hundred kilogrammes, or the duties stipulated above.

The duty upon printed cotton tissues shall be one hundred and fifty francs the hundred kilogrammes.

ARTICLE XXIII.

It is understood that in case the present duty on the importation of foreign spirits should be maintained in the British Tariff, the Article relative to spirits which is contained in the Treaty concluded between Belgium and France on the 1st of May, 1861, shall not be applied to British spirits, so far as regards the reductions therein stipulated, until the 1st of October, 1865.

ARTICLE XXIV.

The Ionian Islands being under the protection of Her Britannic Majesty, the subjects and vessels of those islands shall enjoy, in the dominions of His Majesty the King of the Belgians, all the advantages which are granted to the subjects and vessels of Great Britain by the present Treaty, as soon as the Government of the Ionian Islands shall have agreed to grant to the subjects and vessels of His Majesty the King of the Belgians the same advantages which are granted in those islands to the subjects and vessels of Her Britannic Majesty: it being understood, that in order to prevent abuses, every Ionian vessel claiming the benefits of that Treaty shall be furnished with a patent signed by the Lord High Commissioner of Her Britannic Majesty, or by his representative.

ARTICLE XXV.

The present Treaty shall continue in force for ten years dating from the tenth day after the exchange of the ratifications. In case neither of the two High Contracting Parties should have notified, twelve months before the end of the said period, its intention to terminate the Treaty, it shall remain in force until the expiration of a year dating from the day on which either of the High Contracting Parties shall have given notice for its termination.

The High Contracting Parties reserve to themselves the right to introduce into the Treaty, by common consent, any modifications which may not be at variance with its spirit or principles, and the utility of which may be shown by experience.

ARTICLE XXVI.

From and after the date fixed by the preceding Article, the Treaty of Commerce

l'importateur pourra, à son choix, payer cent quatre vingts francs par cent kilogrammes, ou les droits stipulés ci-dessus.

Le droit sur les tissus de coton imprimés sera de cent cinquante francs par cent kilogrammes.

ARTICLE XXIII.

Il est entendu que, dans le cas où le droit actuel sur l'importation des alcools serait maintenu dans le Tarif Anglais, l'Article relatif aux alcools contenu dans le Traité conclu entre la Belgique et la France le 1er Mai, 1861, ne recevra son application aux alcools Anglais, dans les réductions qu'il stipule, qu'au 1er Octobre, 1865.

ARTICLE XXIV.

Les Iles Ioniennes se trouvant sous la protection de Sa Majesté Britannique, les sujets et les navires de ces îles jouiront, dans les Etats de Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, de tous les avantages qui sont accordés aux sujets et aux navires de la Grande Bretagne par le présent Traité, aussitôt que le Gouvernement des Iles Ioniennes sera convenu d'accorder aux sujets et aux navires de Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges les mêmes avantages qu'il accorde, dans ces îles, aux sujets et aux navires de Sa Majesté Britannique; bien entendu toutefois que pour prévenir des abus, tout navire Ionien qui sera dans le cas de réclamer les bienfaits de ce Traité sera muni d'une patente signée par le Lord Haut Commissaire de Sa Majesté Britannique, ou par celui qui le représente.

ARTICLE XXV.

Le présent Traité restera en vigueur pendant dix années à partir du dixième jour après l'échange des ratifications. Dans le cas où aucune des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes n'aurait notifié, douze mois avant la fin de la dite période, son intention d'en faire cesser les effets, le Traité demeurera obligatoire jusqu'à l'expiration d'une année, à partir du jour où l'une ou l'autre des Hautes Parties Contractantes l'aura dénoncé.

Les Hautes Parties Contractantes se réservent la faculté d'introduire, d'un commun accord, dans ce Traité, toutes modifications qui ne seraient pas en opposition avec son esprit ou ses principes, et dont l'utilité serait démontrée par l'expérience.

ARTICLE XXVI.

A partir de l'époque fixée à l'Article précédent, le Traité de Commerce et de

and Navigation of the 27th of October, 1851, shall cease to be in force.

ARTICLE XXVII.

The present Treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at London before the first day of September, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done in duplicate at London, the twenty-third day of July, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two.

(L.S.) RUSSELL.
(L.S.) THOS. MILNER GIBSON.
(L.S.) SYLVAIN VAN DE WEYER.

Navigation du 27 Octobre, 1851, sera hors de vigueur.

ARTICLE XXVII.

Le présent Traité sera ratifié, et les ratifications en seront échangées à Londres avant le premier Septembre, mil huit cent soixante-deux.

En foi de quoi les Plénipotentiaires respectifs l'ont signé, et y ont apposé le cachet de leurs armes.

Fait à Londres, en double original, le vingt-troisième jour du mois de Juillet, de l'an de grâce mil huit cent soixante-deux.

(L.S.) RUSSELL.
(L.S.) THOS. MILNER GIBSON.
(L.S.) SYLVAIN VAN DE WEYER.

Protocol of Conference held at the Foreign Office, July 23, 1862, between the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and of Belgium.

THE Plenipotentiaries of Her Britannic Majesty and of His Majesty the King of the Belgians, in proceeding to the signature of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between their august Sovereigns, place upon record that they have agreed upon the following points:—

1. That the declarations relative to the arrest of seamen deserters, dated the 4th of January, 1855, and the Order in Council bearing date the 8th of February, 1855, and published in the "London Gazette," of the 13th of February, shall continue in force and validity, as if they had been inserted in the said Treaty.

2. That although the Fishery Convention concluded on the 22nd of March, 1852, between Her Britannic Majesty and His Majesty the King of the Belgians, is provisionally maintained, it is under the reservation made by the Government of His Majesty the King of the Belgians, that they will again bring forward, in a future negotiation, the proposition relative to the reciprocal permission to fish within the marine territorial limit.

In maintaining the said Convention concluded on the 22nd of March, 1852, an exception to the stipulations of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation signed this day, is made in so far as regards the advantages which are or may be given in either country to the produce of national fishery.

Protocole d'une Conférence tenue au Foreign Office le 23 Juillet, 1862, entre les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne et de Belgique.

LES Plénipotentiaires de Sa Majesté Britannique et de Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, en procédant à la signature du Traité de Commerce et de Navigation entre leurs augustes Souverains, constatent qu'ils sont tombés d'accord sur les points suivants:—

1. Que les déclarations relatives à l'arrestation des marins-déserteurs datées du 4 Janvier, 1855, et l'Ordre en Conseil daté du 8 Février, 1855, et publié dans la Gazette de Londres du 13 Février, continueront à avoir force et valeur, comme s'ils eussent été insérés au dit Traité.

2. Que, si la Convention de Pêche, conclue le 22 Mars, 1852, entre Sa Majesté Britannique et Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, est provisoirement maintenue, c'est sous la réserve faite par le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges qu'il reproduira, dans une subséquente négociation, la proposition relative à la faculté réciproque de pêcher dans les limites de la mer territoriale.

Il est fait exception, en maintenant la dite Convention conclue le 22 Mars, 1852, aux stipulations du Traité de Commerce et Navigation conclu aujourd'hui, en ce qui concerne les avantages dont les produits de la pêche nationale sont ou pourront être l'objet dans l'un ou l'autre pays.

3. With regard to sugar, the Government of His Majesty the King of the Belgians reserve to themselves to renew their proposition that an agreement should be come to between Great Britain, Belgium, France, the Zollverein, and the Netherlands, for respectively bringing the duties upon raw and refined sugars imported from any one of those countries into the others to an equality with the taxes imposed upon the same productions of national origin, and for terminating simultaneously in those five countries the system of bounties on the exportation of sugar.

The Belgian Government rely upon the support and co-operation of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty for this purpose.

(Signed) RUSSELL.
THOS. MILNER GIBSON.
SYLVAIN VAN DE WEYER.

3. En ce qui concerne les sucres, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges se réserve de revenir sur la proposition tendante à établir un accord entre la Grande Bretagne, la Belgique, la France, le Zollverein, et les Pays-Bas, pour ramener respectivement les droits sur les sucres bruts et raffinés, importés de l'un de ces Etats dans les autres, au niveau des taxes imposées aux mêmes produits de fabrication nationale, et pour faire cesser simultanément dans ces cinq pays le régime des primes à l'exportation des sucres.

Pour atteindre ce but, le Gouvernement Belge compte sur l'appui et le concours du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique.

(Signé) RUSSELL.
THOS. MILNER GIBSON.
SYLVAIN VAN DE WEYER.

Protocol of Conference held at the Foreign Office, August 30, 1862, between the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and of Belgium.

THE Undersigned, in proceeding to the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation concluded on the 23rd of July, 1862, between Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Majesty the King of the Belgians, have agreed to record in the present Protocol the modifications in the said Treaty arranged this day between them; and in consequence of which the following Tariff is adopted:—

COTTON YARNS.

Nos.	First year.	Second year.
20,000 ^m and under	.. 0 22°	.. 0 20°
20,000 to 30,000	.. 0 30°	.. 0 25°
30,000 to 40,000	.. 0 45°	.. 0 35°
40,000 to 65,000	.. 0 60°	.. 0 50°

Above 65,000, free entry (weighing charge of 10 centimes) during the whole duration of the Treaty.

These modifications shall have the same force and effect as if they were textually inserted in the said Treaty, and they shall come into operation from the 1st of October, 1862, the old duties continuing to be applied to the above-mentioned articles, as well as to the mixed tissues (Article XXII of the Treaty), up to that date.

Protocole d'une Conférence tenue au Foreign Office, le 30 Août, 1862, entre les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne et de Belgique.

LES Soussignés, en procédant à l'échange des ratifications du Traité de Commerce et de Navigation conclu le 23 Juillet, 1862, entre Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, et Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, sont tombés d'accord de consigner dans le présent Protocole les modifications au dit Traité convenues aujourd'hui entr'eux; et en conséquence desquelles le Tarif suivant est adopté:—

FILS DE COTON.

No.	1ère année.	2ème année.
20,000 ^m et au-dessous.	0 22°	.. 0 20°
20,000 à 30,000	.. 0 30°	.. 0 25°
30,000 à 40,000	.. 0 45°	.. 0 35°
40,000 à 65,000	.. 0 60°	.. 0 50°

Au-dessus de 65,000, libre entrée (droit de balance de 10 centimes) pendant toute la durée du Traité.

Ces modifications auront la même force et valeur que si elles étaient insérées textuellement au dit Traité, et elles seront mises à exécution à partir du 1er Octobre, 1862, le régime ancien continuant à être appliqué aux articles mentionnés ci-dessus, ainsi qu'aux tissus mélangés (Article XXII du Traité), jusqu'à cette date.

In testimony whereof the Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Protocol, and have thereto affixed their seals.

En foi de quoi les Plénipotentiaires ont signé le présent Protocole, et y ont apposé le cachet de leurs armes.

Done in London, the 30th of August, 1862.

Fait à Londres, le 30 Août, 1862.

(L.S.) RUSSELL.

(L.S.) RUSSELL.

(L.S.) THOS. MILNER GIBSON.

(L.S.) THOS. MILNER GIBSON.

(L.S.) SYLVAIN VAN DE WEYER.

(L.S.) SYLVAIN VAN DE WEYER.

BELGIUM.

TREATY of Commerce and Navigation between Her
Majesty and the King of the Belgians.

Signed at London, July 23, 1862.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1863.*

LONDON :

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

CONVENTION

BETWEEN

HER MAJESTY

AND THE

KING OF THE BELGIANS,

RELATIVE TO

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

Signed at London, November 13, 1862.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

CONVENTION between Her Majesty and the King of the Belgians, relative to Joint Stock Companies.

Signed at London, November 13, 1862.

[Ratifications exchanged at London, December 8, 1862.]

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Majesty the King of the Belgians, having judged it expedient to come to an understanding in order to define, within their respective dominions and possessions, the position of commercial, industrial, and financial Companies and Associations constituted and authorized in conformity with the laws in force in either of the two countries, have resolved to conclude a Convention for that purpose, and have named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say :—

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Honourable John Earl Russell, Viscount Amberley of Amberley and Ardsalla, a Peer of the United Kingdom, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, a Member of Her Britannic Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; and the Right Honourable Thomas Milner Gibson, a Member of Her Britannic Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, a Member of Parliament, and President of the Committee of Privy Council for Affairs of Trade and Foreign Plantations;

And His Majesty the King of the Belgians, the Sieur Sylvain Van de Weyer, His Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Her Britannic Majesty, Grand Cross of the Order of Leopold, decorated with the Iron Cross, Grand Cross of the Order of Charles III of Spain, of the Order of the Ernestine Branch of Saxony, of the Tower and Sword, of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus, Commander of the Legion of Honour, &c.;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following Articles :—

[39]

SA Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, et Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, ayant jugé utile de s'entendre, pour régulariser dans leurs Etats et Possessions respectifs, la situation des Compagnies et Associations commerciales, industrielles, et financières, constituées et autorisées suivant les lois particulières à chacun des deux pays, ont résolu de conclure une Convention dans ce but, et ont muni à cet effet de leurs pleins pouvoirs, savoir :—

Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, le Très Honorable Jean Comte Russell, Vicomte Amberley de Amberley et Ardsalla, Pair du Royaume Uni, Chevalier du Très Noble Ordre de la Jarretière, Membre du Très Honorable Conseil Privé de Sa Majesté Britannique, Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique pour les Affaires Etrangères; et le Très Honorable Thomas Milner Gibson, Membre du Très Honorable Conseil Privé de Sa Majesté Britannique, Membre du Parlement, et Président du Comité du Conseil Privé pour les Affaires de Commerce et des Colonies;

Et Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, le Sieur Sylvain Van de Weyer, Son Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire près Sa Majesté Britannique, Grand-Croix de l'Ordre de Léopold, décoré de la Croix de Fer, Grand-Croix de l'Ordre de Charles III d'Espagne, de l'Ordre de la Branche Ernestine de Saxe, de la Tour et de l'Épée, de St. Maurice et St. Lazare, Commandeur de la Légion d'Honneur, &c.;

Lesquels, après s'être réciproquement communiqué leurs pleins pouvoirs respectifs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, sont convenus des Articles suivants :—

ARTICLE I.

The High Contracting Parties declare that they mutually grant to all Companies and other Associations, commercial, industrial, or financial, constituted and authorized in conformity with the laws in force in either of the two countries, the power of exercising all their rights, and of appearing before the Tribunals, whether for the purpose of bringing an action, or for defending the same, throughout the dominions and possessions of the other Power, subject to the sole condition of conforming to the laws of such dominions and possessions.

ARTICLE II.

It is agreed that the stipulations of the preceding Article shall apply as well to Companies and Associations constituted and authorized previously to the signature of the present Convention, as to those which may subsequently be so constituted and authorized.

ARTICLE III.

The present Convention is concluded without limit as to duration. Either of the High Powers shall, however, be at liberty to terminate it by giving to the other a year's previous notice. The two High Powers, moreover, reserve to themselves the power to introduce into the Convention, by common consent, any modifications which experience may show to be desirable.

ARTICLE IV.

The present Convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at London in one month, or sooner if possible.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

Done at London, the thirteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two.

(L.S.) RUSSELL.

(L.S.) T. MILNER GIBSON.

(L.S.) SYLVAIN VAN DE WEYER.

ARTICLE I.

Les Hautes Parties Contractantes déclarent reconnaître mutuellement à toutes les Compagnies et autres Associations commerciales, industrielles, ou financières, constituées et autorisées suivant les lois particulières à l'un des deux pays, la faculté d'exercer tous leurs droits, et d'ester en justice devant les Tribunaux, soit pour intenter une action, soit pour y défendre, dans toute l'étendue des Etats et Possessions de l'autre Puissance, sans autre condition que de se conformer aux lois des dits Etats et Possessions.

ARTICLE II.

Il est entendu que la disposition qui précède s'applique aussi bien aux Compagnies et Associations constituées et autorisées antérieurement à la signature de la présente Convention, qu'à celles qui le seraient ultérieurement.

ARTICLE III.

La présente Convention est faite sans limitation de durée. Toutefois, il sera loisible à l'une des deux Hautes Puissances Contractantes de la faire cesser en la dénonçant un an à l'avance. Les deux Hautes Puissances Contractantes se réservent d'ailleurs la faculté d'introduire, d'un commun accord, dans cette Convention les modifications dont l'utilité serait démontrée par l'expérience.

ARTICLE IV.

La présente Convention sera ratifiée, et les ratifications en seront échangées à Londres dans le délai d'un mois, ou plus tôt si faire se peut.

En foi de quoi, les Plénipotentiaires respectifs l'ont signé, et y ont apposé le sceau de leurs armes.

Fait à Londres, le treize Novembre, l'an de grâce mil huit cent soixante-deux.

(L.S.) RUSSELL.

(L.S.) T. MILNER GIBSON.

(L.S.) SYLVAIN VAN DE WEYER.

BELGIUM.

CONVENTION between Her Majesty and the King of
the Belgians, relative to Joint Stock Companies.

Signed at London, November 13. 1862.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty, 1863.*

LONDON :

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO THE

BOMBARDMENT OF BELGRADE,

In June 1862.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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Correspondence relating to the Bombardment of Belgrade,
in June 1862.

No. 1.

Consul-General Longworth to Earl Russell.—(Received June 20.)

(Extract.)

Belgrade, June 19, 1862.

COPY to Sir H. Bulwer:—

“The sudden and unaccountable bombardment of Belgrade could not, in the first instance, but give rise to much misapprehension, unjust suspicion, and contradiction.

“These are the circumstances which led to it;—

“On Sunday evening, the 15th, a disturbance broke out at Belgrade. The Servian Government had previously declared it could not be responsible for the tranquillity of the town. Having found the French and Russian Consuls, and M. Garaschanin, I agreed with them as to the course to be adopted. The first thing to be done was to establish communication and concert between the Servian and Turkish and British authorities in the town; this was impossible. I made, therefore, during the night, three visits to the fortress, and settled the preliminaries of the Convention, which was signed there in the morning by M. Garaschanin, the Pasha, and the Consular body, in virtue of which two Turkish detachments, their police, and the Turkish inhabitants were extricated from a position of great danger.

“On Tuesday morning, at about 7 o'clock, a messenger arrived from the Pasha, hastily summoning us to the fortress. While we were assembling and preparing to go, and before the return of the Pasha's messenger, a discharge of musketry was heard, and this was immediately followed by a bombardment, causing terrors and desolation, and which lasted four hours.

“I had, yesterday afternoon, another interview with the Pasha. I became then convinced that the bombardment had been the mere result of panic and false alarm. Some foolish demonstrations and irregular firing towards the Widdin gate, on the part of some disorderly Servians, had made the Pasha believe the fortress was in danger. The worst is, we are exposed to a repetition of these false alarms and their deplorable consequences.

“On Tuesday evening the fortress opened its fire again for a short time. The Prince of Servia, however, who has arrived at Belgrade, is taking energetic measures to tranquillize the public mind, and I am also concerting measures for the same purpose with my colleagues.”

No. 2.

Earl Cowley to Earl Russell.—(Received June 21.)

My Lord,

Paris, June 20, 1862.

M. THOUVENEL has received with much satisfaction a telegram from Constantinople, stating that the Porte is horror-struck at learning the events which have been passing at Belgrade; that the Pasha of Belgrade has been suspended from his functions in consequence; and that Achmed Vefyk Effendi, lately Turkish Ambassador at Paris, has been sent, as the Porte's Commissioner, to institute an inquiry into the circumstances which led to the late hostilities between the Turks and Servians.

M. Thouvenel applauds this choice; Achmed Effendi being, in his Excellency's opinion, a thoroughly honest man, with the great advantage of having been already employed in Servia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) COWLEY.

No. 3.

Consul-General Longworth to Earl Russell.—(Received June 27.)

(Extract.)

Belgrade, June 21, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith inclosed to your Lordship, copies of my despatches dated the 2nd and 6th instant to Sir Henry Bulwer, throwing light on the important events which have subsequently occurred.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

Consul-General Longworth to Sir H. Bulwer.

Sir,

Belgrade, June 2, 1862.

I HAVE to inform your Excellency that no advance or progress has yet been made by the Pasha and the Servian Government towards a better understanding, nor is such likely to be made while the latter, refusing to discuss any question on its own merits, avail themselves of it only as a pretext for putting forward demands and pretensions involving far more important issues.

The question arising out of the disturbance at the Stamboul Gate is one which with a little good-will and good faith it would not be difficult, and which it would certainly be of the greatest advantage to the public security, to settle as soon as possible. The Pasha affirms that not only as stated in my despatch, an agreement with respect to the mode of proceeding was come to between the Governor of the fortress and the Servian Government, but that there have since been thirty-six cases, the names, dates, and particulars of which are to be found in the registers kept at the guard-houses in question, and all of which show that the practice has been to hand over Turks in the custody of the Servian police to the officers on duty there. The only exceptions to this rule are in cases of civil suits for debt, &c., which have necessarily to be judged before either Turkish or Servian Tribunals, accordingly as the parties may be respectively claimants or defendants in the matter.

Such is the plain statement of the Pasha, and he offers to prove it; it is met, on the other hand, by a vague but positive denial, while the Servians refuse to discuss or prove anything, but persist in their demand of satisfaction. This the Pasha, believing they have no just claim to it, will not give; and I should here correct the statement that Ethem Pasha had withdrawn from the post of the Stamboul Gate the officer and the three men who had been engaged in the scuffle with the gendarmes; it seems I had misunderstood him, and that he merely said they had been temporarily withdrawn to undergo an examination in the fortress.

The conclusion in the meanwhile arrived at is this, that the Servian Government, not obtaining what they demand without scrutiny or proof of any kind, have imposed on the Turkish authorities a penalty amounting to an infraction of a fundamental provision of the Hatti-Sherifs; they have subjected the Turks to Servian jurisdiction. Arbitrary and unjustifiable as this proceeding may be, it is not half so dangerous and indefensible as the extraordinary ground assumed for it, namely, that inquiry in other matters having hitherto proved fruitless, the Servian Government is in future determined to dispense with it altogether, and to decide all differences with the Turkish authorities, according to its own good pleasure.

In justification of this resolve M. Garaschanin told me he could produce whole files of documents which would prove that it was impossible to obtain justice from the Turks. This sweeping charge, however, is indignantly repelled by the Pasha, who retorts that justice can in no case be had from the Servian Government, in proof of which he adduces ten cases of murder, some of them of a very atrocious character, which had occurred since his appointment last autumn to the Pashalic of Belgrade, and for which no redress or satisfaction had yet been given. Such charges and recriminations are indeed worse than useless, and only serve to show the critical state in which the relations of the Porte with the Servian Government have been placed.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. A. LONGWORTH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

Consul-General Longworth to Sir H. Bulwer.

(Extract.)

Belgrade, June 6, 1862.

I HAVE to report to your Excellency that, on Thursday evening the 8th instant, a pandour (guard) of the Servian Government shot a Turk who was head Tatar of the

Austrian Government, while seated in a shop near the Stamboul-Capou, the gate of the town at which the recent disturbance took place.

The Servian account of the affair is, that in passing the shop the pandour overheard the Turkish officer (Mulazim Khourshid Aga), who was in conversation with some other Turks, make some opprobrious remark with reference to himself, whereupon, having retired to a short distance, he examined his pistols to see they were in good order, and then returned to the shop, and discharged one of them at the officer, exclaiming, "You are the man!" or something to that purport. The ball, however, did not take effect, having passed under the arm of the officer, who sprang from his seat, and disappeared up some stairs adjoining the shop. While this was doing the pandour, according to his own account, fired his other pistol, and accidentally wounded the Austrian Tatar.

The Turkish version, founded on the evidence of the four Turks present on the occasion, including that of the Tatar, who died yesterday, is essentially different.

They declare on oath, that the insulting expressions attributed to the officer were never uttered by him, but that the pandour, without having received any provocation, fired his pistol at the officer, and that the words addressed to him were, "Are you the man concerned in that affair?" alluding, as they thought, to what had occurred a few days before at the Stamboul Gate. They further stated that it was after the officer had made his escape, that the pandour, deliberately drawing his second pistol from his girths, deliberately fired at the Tatar.

In consequence of this outrage committed under the eyes of the Turkish guard, stationed at the Stamboul-Capou, and the concourse of people and gendarmes, by whom they naturally thought they were about to be assailed as before, they closed the gate, and refused to open it till the arrival of orders from the Military Pasha.

This step, apparently justified by the danger to which they were exposed, accompanied, as the Servian Government asserts, by the fact that the Turkish population having stood to their arms—an assertion by no means proved, and strongly denied by the Pasha—has been made a serious ground of offence and complaint by M. Garaschanin, who has addressed a circular letter to the Consular Body on the subject.

No. 4.

Consul-General Longworth to Earl Russell.—(Received June 27.)

(Extract.)

Belgrade, June 21, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith inclosed, to your Lordship, the copy of a despatch, dated this day, to Sir Henry Bulwer. It contains a simple narrative of facts, such as, for the most part, have come under my own observation.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

Consul-General Longworth to Sir H. Bulwer.

(Extract.)

Belgrade, June 21, 1862.

ON Sunday evening, the 15th instant, at about 7 o'clock, another disturbance broke out at Belgrade; this was at first announced in the quarter of the town where I reside, and which is at some distance from the fortress, by the discharge of musketry, repeated at intervals. I was in hopes that this was but one of the many false alarms to which we have of late been exposed, but on hastening to the scene of action with my dragoman, Mr. Fitzio, I saw that the commotion in the town threatened some serious catastrophe.

Before reaching the Stamboul Gate, I met my Russian colleague, Colonel Vlangaly who was proceeding to his house, and was of opinion that nothing was to be done in the affair. I persuaded him, however, to return with me, being convinced that if anything was to be effected for the preservation of peace, and perhaps of the town itself it was only by means of zealous, and, as far as possible frank co-operation with my colleagues.

On arriving at the Stamboul Gate, we found it shut exteriorly, but on proceeding to the other side of the guard-house, the Turks who, some sixty in number, had barricaded themselves there, levelled their muskets at us as we approached. I came to a parley, however, with the officer, who informed me that his communications were entirely cut off with the fortress. I exhorted him to stand as long as he could on the defensive, but to reserve his fire and avoid a conflict by every means in his power. This he afterwards did, and acted throughout with prudence and bravery.

We then made our way to the residence of M. Tastu, the French Consul-General, who occupies part of a hotel most conveniently situated with reference to the objects it had become our duty to carry out. Most fortunately for these, we there met with M. Garaschanin, the Chief Minister of the Servian Government, from whom I learnt all that could be known as to the causes and nature of the disturbance, and with whom we could concert as to the measures to be taken in this emergency. The former, as usual, were involved in some obscurity. There had been illuminations and rejoicings in the town on the occasion of the Sultan's festival; excitement prevailed, and a fray had occurred between some Turks and Servians at a fountain, in which conflict one of the latter had been killed; this led to a fierce encounter; the town gates which were easiest of access to the fortress, those of Widdin and of the Save, were immediately stormed by the populace; these posts, by order of the Governor, in order to prevent bloodshed and other serious consequences, were evacuated; this was effected with a loss of two men killed, with thirteen wounded on the side of the Turks.

M. Garaschanin, who had exerted himself to the utmost to restore order, now declared it was impossible to do so, for the night had come on, and a desperate struggle had commenced in different parts of the town; the Turkish police-station, with its fortified barracks, in the centre of the public square, kept up a constant fire to prevent anybody approaching; the Stamboul Capou and the Varosh Capou, garrisoned respectively by a company of sixty men, held out in like manner. With respect to the fortress, though for the moment observing an ominous silence, more danger was to be apprehended from that than any other quarter, and nobody could venture at that hour, and under such circumstances, to go there. M. Garaschanin, therefore, and my colleagues came to the conclusion that nothing was to be done, and were about to separate when I declared that it was absolutely necessary that the Turkish and Servian authorities should be brought to co-operate, and I offered to go to the fortress myself to bring about an understanding on that point.

Contrary to expectation, I experienced no difficulty with respect to it. I found the Governor, the Military Pasha, and the Medjlis in a state of great consternation, and ready to adopt my suggestions. None of them, however, would venture out of the fortress: but the Pasha gave me a letter for the Turkish Voivode or Superintendent of the Police, ordering him to act in concert with M. Garaschanin. But, as I discovered on my return, the Voivode was locked up with his men in the police barracks, whence a running fire was maintained, rendering all access impossible, some other plan accordingly was to be tried; and I once more set out, accompanied this time by M. Alexis, the Chief Dragoman of the Servian Government.

After long deliberation, and a third visit to the fortress, I at length arranged the preliminaries of a Convention, in virtue of which the Turkish soldiers from the detached posts, and such of the Turkish residents as wished to leave the town, would, together with the police, be allowed to do so in safety.

At daybreak, M. Garaschanin and the Consular body repaired to the fortress, and drew up and signed a Convention to this effect: a copy of it is herewith inclosed. It was executed, as far as the evacuation was concerned, in the most satisfactory manner; the Consular body escorting the different parties of soldiers and residents as they withdrew, and precautions having been taken against their being in any way molested. The houses of the Turks, however, were pillaged after their departure, but M. Garaschanin undertook that the plundered effects should be restored; the fugitives, nevertheless, were in a desperate condition, driven from their homes without food, lodging, or raiment, agitated alike by terror and fury. Many had been murdered the previous night, and I had myself seen the carts transporting the corpses of women barbarously mangled; the men, however, still retained their fire-arms, and could with difficulty, there is no doubt, be restrained from using them.

I went repeatedly to and fro between the fortress and the Servians on that day, on errands of conciliation: the Pasha assured me, finally, that he would do his best to repress the excited feelings of these people, but there might be a mutiny among them which he would be unable to control; by his consent, however, no violent measure would be adopted.

I believed, therefore, the crisis to be past, when at 7 o'clock on Tuesday morning, the 17th, I received a pressing invitation to repair, with my colleagues and M. Garaschanin, to the fortress. On my way thither, I called on my Russian colleague, and while his carriage was preparing to take us, and we were quietly conversing together, the appalling sounds of the bombardment were first heard by us. We proceeded, with all the dispatch we could, to the hotel of the French Consul, M. Tastu, which, as already stated, is situated in the vicinity of the fortress. On reaching it, we found that and the houses in the neigh-

neighbourhood already deserted. A bomb had penetrated into the chamber of Madame Tastu, an aged lady, the mother of the French Consul-General, who narrowly escaped with her life. We returned, therefore, to the British Consulate, where we were soon after joined by the Consular body.

The Austrian Acting Consul, M. Vassitch, in passing that way informed us that he was going to Semlin with a view of getting into the fortress across the Save and attempting to make some arrangement with the Pasha for the protection of Austrian subjects.

The bombardment, though suspended at intervals, lasted about four hours, causing great damage to property, and though few people were killed the eventual loss of life will probably be considerable, as numbers of poor people not daring to return to their homes are now destitute and houseless wanderers in the environs of Belgrade.

Soon after the cessation of the bombardment M. Vassitch rejoined us, and announced that the Pasha was prepared to treat with us. This summons after what had taken place appeared to us altogether inadmissible.

The measures taken by the Consuls for calming the agitation which prevailed among Turks and Christians have been so far successful: there has been no hostile demonstration of any consequence for the last three days.

Inclosure 2 in No. 4.

Convention signed at the Fortress of Belgrade, June 15, 1862.

Convention faite à la forteresse de Belgrade, le 15 Juin, 1862, entre M. Garaschanin et son Excellence le Pacha, Gouverneur de Belgrade, et en présence des membres du Corps Consulaire actuellement dans cette ville.

M. GARASCHANIN ayant déclaré qu'il ne pouvait répondre de la tranquillité de la ville sans la mesure ci-après indiquée, il a été convenu que la question des portes sera réservée des deux parts pour être traitée ailleurs, et que pour cette raison les soldats Turcs qui les occupent encore seraient retirés, ainsi que la police Turque, pour rétablir la sécurité publique si malheureuse.

Cette mesure est prise aux conditions suivantes:—

1. M. Garaschanin se rend responsable de la sûreté des troupes jusqu'à leur rentrée dans la forteresse.
2. Les maisons et les propriétés des Turcs résidant dans la ville seront garantis et respectés, et ceux des habitants qui resteraient dans leur demeure auront toute protection.
3. M. Garaschanin s'engage à donner télégraphiquement les ordres nécessaires pour prévenir toute violence contre les autres forteresses du pays, ainsi que contre les habitants Musulmans qui y résident.
4. Les familles Turques en se retirant ne seront pas molestées ni insultées.

(Signé)

GARASCHANIN,

Ministre des Affaires Etrangères.

ACHIR PACHA,

Gouverneur de la Forteresse de Belgrade.

(Contre-signé)

J. A. LONGWORTH, Consul-Général d'Angleterre

E. TASTU, Consul-Général de France.

A. VLANGALY, Consul-Général de Russie.

MERONI, Consul de Prusse.

VASSITCH, Gérant de Consul de Belgrade, pour l'Autriche

(Translation.)

Convention made at the fortress of Belgrade, the 15th of June, 1862, between M. Garaschanin and his Excellency the Pasha, Governor of Belgrade, and in presence of the members of the Consular body now in this town.

M. GARASCHANIN having declared that he could not answer for the tranquillity of the town without the measure hereafter mentioned, it has been agreed that the question of the gates be reserved on both sides to be treated elsewhere, and that with this reserve the Turkish soldiers who still occupy them shall be withdrawn, as well as the Turkish police, in order to re-establish public security, which has been so unfortunately disturbed.

This measure is taken on the following conditions:—

1. M. Garaschanin makes himself responsible for the safety of the troops until their re-entrance into the fortress.

2. The houses and properties of the Turks residing in the town shall be guaranteed and respected, and those of the inhabitants who remain in their dwellings shall have all protection.

3. M. Garaschanin engages to give by telegraph the necessary orders for preventing all violence against the other fortresses of the country, as well as against the Mussulman inhabitants residing there.

4. The Turkish families whilst retiring shall not be molested or insulted.

(Signed)

GARASCHANIN, *Minister for Foreign Affairs.*

ACHIR PASHA, *Governor of the Fortress of Belgrade.*

(Countersigned)

J. A. LONGWORTH, *English Consul-General.*

E. TASTU, *French Consul-General.*

A. VLANGALY, *Russian Consul-General.*

MERONI, *Prussian Consul-General.*

VASSITCH, *Acting Consul at Belgrade for Austria.*

No. 5.

Sir H. Bulwer to Earl Russell.—(Received July 2.)

(Extract.)

Constantinople, June 18, 1862.

THE affairs of Servia have suddenly become serious, though I trust not so much so as to cause European complications.

The Porte is, as usual, to blame for its unaccountable delays. It names a Commissioner who is to go to Belgrade and settle all differences. Not a week has passed without my urging the departure of this Commissioner, who, nevertheless, going every day, has never gone.

The Servian Government, through feebleness or design, has encouraged excitement amongst its own population.

The most pressing question has been for some time the occupation of certain gates in the town by Turkish troops.

The Servians have contended that these gates are without the fortress, and consequently cannot properly be held by Turks. The Turks declare they are within the ancient limits of the fortress, and that consequently they have a right to hold them. My opinion, from what I saw and learnt myself at Belgrade, is, though the Ottoman Government may be, and probably is, justified in its pretensions, that such pretensions have not the slightest intrinsic value. For, what are a few guards posted here and there amidst the Servian population? In any disturbance they are certain to be overpowered; and without a disturbance, they are in nowise needed. But so, on the other hand, they do no harm to the Servians; they are in general civil and inoffensive, and are never the first to occasion or justify riot.

As is frequently the case, however, it is precisely this matter—which, in reality, is of little importance to either party—that both parties treat as most important.

After various assassinations of Turks, to which the Servian Government seemed indifferent, and a letter from M. Garaschanin to the Consuls which predicted, and by anticipation justified, a disturbance, the Servians seem to have risen and taken two of the disputed gates from the Turkish troops.

A provisional agreement, leaving matters as they were till the arrival of the Turkish Commissioner, was then come to between the Servian Government and the Turkish Governor, through the interposition of the Consuls; it does not, however, appear whether they were parties (which I think they should not have been) to this arrangement or not.

Although it was evident that affairs had now taken the turn that the Servians wanted, that they were in possession of their gates, and were likely to keep them, I advised Aali Pasha not to disturb for the moment the temporary arrangement; and he was willing, I believe, to have complied with this advice, when suddenly, last night, news arrived of the town being bombarded.

It is difficult to understand the causes of this bombardment, which the Consuls say took place without being announced; but it is evident it had some motive, since the Consuls were previously sent for by the Governor, but did not go; whether they refused, or were too late, does not appear.

At first it was to be conjectured that the Pasha had been overruled by some revolt in the citadel. Subsequently this idea seems dropped, and the bombardment is attributed to the Pasha himself, but without explanation.

If Mussulman houses were attacked in the town after his agreement, this would have justified the act, but we know not whether they were so or not. At last the Austrian Consul penetrates into the fortress and sees the Governor. We do not know what reasons for his conduct the Governor gave, but we know that he offered to cease his firing, and explain what had occurred, if the Consuls would come to the citadel.

This they refused doing, on the ground of the former agreement not having been kept, and they throw the responsibility of events on the Pasha.

No. 6.

Earl Russell to Sir H. Bulwer.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 25, 1862.

YOUR Excellency is authorized to attend Conferences of the five Powers in reference to the lamentable events which have taken place at Belgrade.

A Turkish Representative ought to be present at these Conferences.

The subjects of inquiry appear to Her Majesty's Government to be—

1st. What were the causes of this outbreak; what circumstances caused the Servians to attack the gates, which the Turks occupied according to Treaty; and what reasons influenced the Pasha in bombarding the town?

2ndly. Is there any immediate danger of a renewal of the conflict; and, if so, what measures should be taken to prevent it?

3rdly. What are the stipulations of Treaties, and especially of the Treaty of Paris of 1856, relating to Belgrade and to Servia?

4thly. Have these stipulations of Treaties been observed or violated? If violated, in what respect, and by whom?

5thly. Is it necessary or expedient to make any alteration in the existing Treaties?

In considering all these questions, the utmost attention should be paid to the maintenance of the integrity of the Turkish Empire, to which all the Powers are solemnly pledged by the Treaty of Paris.

I am, &c
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 7.

Earl Russell to Earl Cowley.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 3, 1862.

IT may be convenient to record in a despatch the principal telegrams that I have addressed to your Excellency and to others of Her Majesty's servants respecting the late outbreak at Belgrade.

The first step which I took on hearing from Mr. Consul-General Longworth of the bombardment of the city by the Turkish garrison was to direct him, either alone or in concert with his colleagues, to communicate with the Turkish Pasha, and endeavour to put a stop to it; and I addressed a similar instruction to Sir Henry Bulwer.

It appearing, moreover, to Her Majesty's Government to be of importance to prevent the recurrence of such an act of violence, I directed your Excellency, as well as Her Majesty's Representatives at Berlin, St. Petersburg, and Vienna, to suggest to the Courts to which they were respectively accredited, that persons attached to the several Missions at Vienna should be associated with a person named by the Austrian Government, and should be sent to Semlin, with authority, if necessary, to call in the assistance of Austrian troops to occupy Belgrade for a time, and to restore order.

When, however, it appeared that the bombardment was not likely to be renewed, I directed your Excellency to express to M. Thouvenel the readiness of Her Majesty's Government to refer the questions relating to Servia for discussion at Constantinople between the Representatives of the Powers parties to the Treaty of Paris of 1856 and the Ministers of the Sultan, but that Her Majesty's Government were of opinion that it was desirable that the instructions given to the Representatives should be as nearly identical as possible.

The French Government concurred in the propriety of the questions respecting Servia being discussed at Constantinople, and expressed a desire to act in concert with Her Majesty's Government. They desired, however, to defer sending instructions till the Reports of the

Consuls respecting the events at Belgrade had been received and considered; and afterwards, on learning that the Porte had sent a Commission of Inquiry to Belgrade, the French Government proposed that the foreign Consuls should take part in that inquiry, and that their Report, when forwarded to Constantinople, should serve as the basis of the deliberations to be there entered into.

Her Majesty's Government were, however, of opinion that, when the Sultan had of his own spontaneous action superseded the Governor of Belgrade, and had, moreover, dispatched one of his ablest statesmen to that city to investigate what had occurred, it would seem to imply distrust in His Highness if the Powers were to propose that their Consuls should be associated in the inquiry with the Turkish Commissioners. There was nothing, however, to prevent the Consuls from reporting severally to their respective Ministers at Constantinople the opinion which they might form on the facts of which they might obtain cognizance.

The Cabinet of Vienna, as your Excellency is aware, concurred in the opinion of the English and French Governments that Constantinople was the proper place for conducting the inquiry as to the means of restoring order at Belgrade, and expressed its opinion that the Treaty of 1856 should form the basis of the negotiations the object of which should be to maintain the rights both of Turkey and of Serbia; but Her Majesty's Government, in assenting to this latter opinion, thought it right to add that, if the deliberations of Constantinople resulted in the conclusion that the only effectual measure for preventing the recurrence of disorder was to be found in armed intervention, they would be prepared to take into consideration any proposal for that object, thus reserving to themselves free liberty to decide upon the propriety of the course when formally submitted to them.

The Austrian Minister at Constantinople was specially instructed to communicate with Sir Henry Bulwer, who, on his side, was authorized to express his readiness to confer with the Representatives of all the Powers at Constantinople as soon as he received the instructions about to be sent to him.

It appeared from a telegram dated the 25th ultimo, which I received from Her Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg, that Prince Gortchakoff consented to a Conference at Constantinople on Servian affairs, but desired to be made acquainted with the views of Her Majesty's Government upon the subject of those affairs. For himself the Prince was of opinion that the basis of an arrangement might be found in a settlement of the question affecting the residence of Turks in Serbia, in the removal of the ramparts of the citadel of Belgrade, the withdrawal of the Turks from the military posts in the city, and the evacuation of the small forts still occupied by the Porte in the country.

On a previous occasion Prince Gortchakoff had alluded, as grievances of which the Servians might seek a remedy, to the residence of the Turks in Belgrade as being against existing stipulations, and to the refusal of the Pasha to subject those Turks to Servian jurisdiction.

I did not think it necessary to desire Lord Napier by telegraph to point out to Prince Gortchakoff the erroneous impression he entertained in regard to the bearing of existing stipulations on the last two points. The fact, however, is, that the Firman of 1833 provides in express terms for the dwelling of the Turks in the city of Belgrade, and for their being under the control of the Turkish Pasha. But Lord Napier, under the instructions that I have given to him, will have pointed out to Prince Gortchakoff that Her Majesty's Government were of opinion that the Servians ought not to be encouraged in the pretensions to complete independence which they have of late put forward; that the advice to be given by the Powers to the Porte on the one hand, and to the Servians on the other, should be impartial: that if that advice should, as regards the Porte, recommend the withdrawal of the Turkish garrisons from the detached fortresses which they occupy under arrangements of long standing, the Turks should be secured in the possession of the Fortress of Belgrade, and should have the right of sending into the fortress provisions,* ammunition, and men whenever necessary.

I stated to Lord Napier, however, that Her Majesty's Government would not give any positive opinions on these matters till the Representatives at Constantinople had met and discussed them, but that they thought that the Servians had been too much encouraged to defy Treaties, and that Prince Gortchakoff might fairly remind the Servian Government that Serbia is not an independent Power, but is bound by the obligations of Treaties by which its present state of administrative independence has been sanctioned.

More recently, at the request of the French Government, I have directed Her Majesty's Consul-General at Belgrade to act in concert with his colleagues in order to prevent the renewal of a bombardment, if such an event seemed likely to take place; and in repeating to Sir Henry Bulwer the instructions to communicate and to act in concert

* The Firman of 1833 provides for the Servians supplying provisions in return for payment.

with the Representatives of other Powers, I have pointed out to him that all the Powers parties to the Treaties of 1856 were called upon to take part in the deliberations to be held on these matters.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 8.

Earl Russell to Sir H. Bulwer.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 3, 1862.

ALTHOUGH Her Majesty's Government do not wish to prejudge the result of the Conferences which are about to take place on the affairs of Servia, it may be useful to your Excellency to be in possession of the general views of Her Majesty's Government on this subject.

The facts may be thus briefly summed up.

The Turks have for a long period held the citadel of Belgrade and four gates in the town. The Turks alone garrisoned the citadel, but the space between the citadel and the gates was inhabited by a mixed population of Turks and Servians. The two races have been lately on terms of enmity against each other.

On the 15th of June a quarrel took place at a fountain between a Turk and a Servian as to who should first help himself to water. The Turk drove the Servian away, and, as it is alleged, killed him. Presently there was a tumult in the town; armed Servians attacked the gates held by the Turks, and got possession of two of them. At this point the Consuls interfered. They made an agreement with the Governor of the fortress, by which the Turks agreed to surrender the two remaining gates and retire into the citadel. Provision was made for the personal safety of the Mahometan inhabitants who should retire to the citadel, and for the security of the persons and property of those who should remain in their houses. But no provision was made for the security of the property of those who should retire into the garrison, and their property was immediately pillaged by the Servians, the Consuls apparently not interfering.

On the following day the Governor of the citadel, without being, as far as it appears, regularly attacked, bombarded the town at intervals during four hours. This bombardment was at length stopped by the Pasha, in accordance with the wishes and advice of the Austrian Consul. Little damage was done to the town.

The Sublime Porte, on hearing of these events, named Vefyk Achmed Pasha to proceed to Belgrade, and make a full inquiry. The Sultan at the same time displaced the Governor, and named a new Governor.

The Servian Minister of the Interior, on the part of the whole Servian Ministry, issued a proclamation,* declaring the contest at an end; that bloodshed had ceased, and recommending friendly conduct and humane behaviour towards the Mahometan inhabitants of the town.

In this proclamation the following passage occurs: "We have gained what we, under other circumstances, could only have gained with far greater danger and bloodshed."

* *Proclamation issued by the Servian Minister of the Interior, in the name of the whole Ministry, to the citizens of Belgrade.*

(Translation.)

The unhappy and bloody contest by which the peace and quiet of this town has been disturbed since yesterday is now at an end.

The Government, following the well-known views of His Highness our Prince, has not omitted to take all precautions, from the first to the last moment, which were deemed necessary for the safety of the citizens.

Every precaution has been taken to prevent any further bloodshed.

The efforts of the Government, supported by the noble and humane assistance of the Consuls of the guaranteeing Powers produced the restoration of peace and quiet.

We have gained what we, under other circumstances, could only have gained with far greater danger and bloodshed.

You, citizens, our illustrious Prince expects that you will support the Government in its difficult task by following the advice of the authorities, by your friendly conduct, and by your humane behaviour towards the Mahometan inhabitants of this town.

Citizens of Belgrade, you owe this to your name, to the dignity of our Prince, to the honour and dignity of the whole land, to the peace and quiet of this city.

While the Government issues this appeal to you, in the name of our Lord and Prince, it at the same time trusts that you will respond to its expectations in the fullest sense, which is the best and only guarantee for the safety of the city.

Belgrade, June 16, 1862.

NICHOLAS HRISTIE, *Minister of Interior.*

It is clear from this passage that the quarrel at the fountain was only a pretext, and that the possession of the gates was an object for which the Servian Ministry were prepared to encounter danger and bloodshed.

Thus, while the Sultan punishes his Governor for the bombardment, no blame is cast upon the Servian people for the attack upon the gates, and the pillage of the property of those Turks who had retired into the citadel. Nor did the Consuls deem it necessary to blame either the attack upon the Turks without provocation, or the destruction and pillage of Turkish property.

Such being the facts, it remains to be considered :—

1st. What are the engagements of the Powers who signed the Treaty of Paris ; and,

2nd. What will be the best course to be taken by them in order to prevent similar disorders for the future.

With a view to ascertain our engagements, I have consulted the General Treaty of Peace signed at Paris in 1856, the Protocols of Conferences preparatory to the conclusion of that Treaty, and the Treaties and Hatti-Sheriffs relating specially to Servia.

The Treaty of Paris of 1856 is an instrument of the highest importance. It contains the recorded views and decisions of Austria, France, Great Britain, Prussia, Russia, Sardinia and Turkey, on the subject of the maintenance of the Ottoman Empire. All these Powers must be desirous to adhere faithfully to the engagements then contracted. We are bound, however, while adhering to the spirit of that Treaty, to consider impartially any propositions by which, varying the means, we may preserve inviolate the consistency of our end.

Proceeding in this manner, we find that by Article VIII of the Treaty, "*Their Majesties engage, each on his part, to respect the independence and the territorial integrity of the Ottoman Empire ; guarantee, in common, the strict observance of that engagement ; and will, in consequence, consider any act tending to its violation as a question of general interest.*"

These last words, which I have marked, are of the utmost importance for the right understanding and faithful observance of the Treaty.

Articles XXVIII and XXIX of the Treaty affect Servia. The engagement contained in them are to the following effect :—

Article XXVIII. The Principality of Servia shall continue to hold of the Sublime Porte, in conformity with the Imperial Hats, which fix and determine its rights and immunities, placed henceforward under the collective guarantee of the Contracting Powers. In consequence, the said Principality shall preserve its independent and national administration, as well as full liberty of worship, of legislation, of commerce, and of navigation.

Article XXIX. The right of garrison of the Sublime Porte, as stipulated by anterior regulations, is maintained. No armed intervention can take place in Servia without previous agreement between the High Contracting Powers.

By these Articles it is provided that the Principality of Servia shall continue to hold of the Sublime Porte ; that the Principality shall preserve its independent and national administration, as well as full liberty of worship, of legislation, of commerce, and of navigation. On the other hand, the Porte preserves its right of garrison, as stipulated by anterior regulations.

Upon considering what has lately occurred, it does not appear to Her Majesty's Government that there has been any attempt on the part of the Sublime Porte to deprive Servia of its independent and national administration, or to infringe in any way its full liberty of worship, of legislation, of commerce, or of navigation.

On the other hand, the engagement by which it is stipulated that the Principality shall continue to hold of the Sublime Porte has been openly attacked and virtually denied. The declarations of the Prince and of the Skuptchina, by which it was declared that the Prince alone was entitled to carry on relations with foreign Powers, and by which the Constitution of the Principality was set aside without the sanction of the Sultan, the provisions by which an hereditary authority was conferred on the Prince in contempt of the Firmans and Hatti-Sheriffs of the Sublime Porte, and, lastly, the decree by which 50,000 men were to be levied and armed in support of this usurped authority, grievously affected the territorial integrity of the Ottoman Empire, and therefore were, according to the Treaty of Paris, to be considered as matters of general interest.

Unhappily the Governments of Austria and Great Britain alone perceived the serious character of these provisions. The other Powers, who treated the matter lightly, must now be aware of the consequences of these encroachments of the Prince of Servia upon the rights of the Sultan.

Accordingly the right of garrison, as stipulated by anterior regulations, has been attacked. An insignificant quarrel between a Turk and a Servian has been made the pretext for a successful assault on two of the gates of Belgrade, and the other two gates have been surrendered to the Servians by the advice of the European Consuls.

It now, therefore, becomes matter of consideration what course shall be taken in order to preserve friendly relations between the Sublime Porte and Servia, which province, according to Article VIII of the Treaty of Bucharest of 1812, has been *ab antiquo* subject and tributary to the Porte.

It may possibly be desirable for this purpose that the "anterior regulations," according to which the military forces of the Sultan occupy, or have occupied, certain gates in the town of Belgrade, and certain forts and places in Servia, should be modified.

The inconveniences of a mixed jurisdiction may possibly be such that all Mahometans who reside out of the fortress of Belgrade should be subjected to the jurisdiction of the Courts of Justice of Servia, and amenable to the Servian police for any contravention of good order, or breach of the peace.

But if a change of this kind should be found expedient, care must be taken :—

1st. That a declaration of the Contracting Powers should record in the terms, and in fulfilment of the Treaty of Paris, that "the Principality of Servia shall continue to hold of the Sublime Porte, in conformity with the Imperial Hats which fix and determine its rights and immunities, placed henceforward under the collective guarantee of the Contracting Powers. In consequence the said Principality shall preserve its independent and national administration, as well as full liberty of worship, of legislation, of commerce, and of navigation," and that any act tending to the violation of the integrity of the Ottoman Empire will be considered by the Contracting Powers as a question of general interest.

2ndly. The Sublime Porte must have the means of maintaining, reinforcing from time to time, arming, and provisioning its fortress of Belgrade. For this purpose it may be necessary to stipulate that no forts, entrenchments, or batteries shall be erected between the gates now abandoned and the citadel ; that no armed Servians shall be quartered there ; and that every officer and soldier shall be subject only to Turkish jurisdiction.

The details of these measures, and of any others that may be proposed, may be fitly considered at Constantinople by the Representatives of the Sovereigns who signed the Treaty of 1856.

All those Powers must be aware that there exists a conspiracy, scarcely concealed, in all the provinces of European Turkey to throw off the rule of the Sublime Porte, and to substitute for it some kind of anarchy. Some persons talk of a Slave, some others of a Greek Empire ; all look to plunder, to power, to revenge, and to bloodshed. In this position of affairs it is incumbent on the Great Powers represented at Constantinople to give the most striking proof of their fidelity to their solemn engagements, their regard for a Power whom they have admitted into the European system, and their determination to preserve unbroken the general peace.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 9.

Sir H. Bulwer to Earl Russell.—(Received July 5.)

(Extract.)

Constantinople, June 24, 1862.

IT is still only amidst much uncertainty and many confused and contradictory accounts that I can pretend to give any explanation as to recent affairs in Servia.

It has long been evident that the Servian Government would, when an occasion presented itself, endeavour to obtain by force the concessions for which it has for the last two years been negotiating, and there can be little doubt that the recent calling out and training of the militia, however otherwise accounted for, had reference to this motive. Nevertheless the Servians were neither, I think, prepared nor disposed, just at present, to enter upon any serious conflict.

The pride, the apathy, the procrastination of the Turks, who will never be hurried about anything, and especially about anything concerning a subordinate province, unless under very extreme and pressing circumstances, allowed a state of things to continue at Belgrade which the Porte ought to have foreseen might compromise affairs in Montenegro ; but the usual answer that Aali Bey, named Commissioner for settling the points and disputes in Servia, was about to start for his post immediately, was repeated to all my observations, and left me nothing to reply. However, there can, I think, be little hesitation in believing

that even these delays would have produced little more than the ordinary results of procrastination, had not some more than usual cause for excitement existed.

The origin of the affray, during which the Servians possessed themselves of two gates of the town, hitherto held by the Turks, and which took place on the evening of the 15th, is as usual involved in obscurity and dispute. The accredited story, however, is that a Servian boy insulted a Turk, who beat him, and who was shortly afterwards stabbed by the boy to the heart.

I have always thought that the tenacity of the Turks in maintaining the guard of these gates was a mistake. It is necessary to explain they are in the midst of the Servians, and only in the possession of Ottoman soldiers under the plea that they are within the ancient limits of the fortress; a theory probably founded on fact, but which is not applicable to existing circumstances.

After some fighting and firing and more confusion (it does not appear, if what the Austrian Consul, who witnessed the scene, affirms is true, that more than five or six persons were killed), the Servian Government and the Governor of the Citadel being both apprehensive of allowing the struggle to continue, agreed to close it on an understanding that things should remain *in statu quo* until some ultimate arrangement.

About 9 in the morning of the 17th, the Pasha sent to the Consuls, being evidently much disturbed, requesting their immediate presence in the citadel since he could not leave it.

The Consuls say that before they could attend the summons the bombardment of the town commenced without advice or apparent cause. The Pasha says he waited a considerable time, that the Consuls neither came nor sent back his messenger, that the Servians attacked him and even raised batteries, and that he was obliged to defend himself. The fact, I believe, lies between the two stories.

It is easy to conceive that the Turkish urban population which then crowded the citadel—a population which had retired from their dwellings, which were left exposed to the enemy; a population which was apprehensive and exasperated—could not be but prone to exaggerated anger and fear, and that it easily communicated its sentiments to the Governor and his garrison. Hence a few shots from muskets were easily taken as the sign of a regular assault, and this idea, the construction of some barricades, which the Servians say they erected under the fear of an attack from the citadel, not unnaturally confirmed. The general result of my inquiries leads me to take this view of the case, which, moreover, seems a rational one.

In the meantime, the Austrian Consul, who, from the immense population placed under his protection, was in a peculiar position, and who resides, moreover, I am told, rather out of the town, determined if possible to gain the citadel, stop the bombardment, and ascertain its causes. He succeeded in his attempt (I have read his report), and at once engaged the Pasha to cease firing (this might be about 12 o'clock or a little after); heard what he had to say in his defence, and promised to take a message from him to the different Consuls—that message being that he, the Pasha, had no intention to attack or bombard the town, unless he was himself attacked, but he begged them to keep back the Servians from demonstrations of which he might not rightly calculate the importance, but to which he should be obliged to reply; and that he still further begged that as they had not attended his first request, they would now repair to the citadel and receive his explanations and assurances.

The Austrian Consul sought his colleagues with this message: they returned, as their only answer, a protest against the conduct of the Governor, refusing to attend his summons, and throwing upon him the responsibility of all that might occur.

In order, however, to prevent the ill effect which this step might possibly have produced, the Austrian Consul himself returned with the protest of his brother Consuls, and insisted, notwithstanding, on the absolute necessity of the Pasha's remaining quiet, unless under circumstances of the gravest nature.

It is easy to understand that as the fortress would depend on Austria for provisions, the advice of the Austrian Consul was certain to have extreme weight; and the Pasha, in fact, promised positively that he would remain tranquil under all provocation that was not in the highest degree perilous to his charge.

On the Tuesday evening, however, a few shots were again fired from the citadel. The Pasha says this was caused by an attack on the Medjidie battery, and by the discharge of two howitzers against the Widdin Gate. Whether this assertion is correct or not, I am unable to say; but, at all events, it appears that the affair was merely momentary.

The first news I had of the bombardment was on the night of Tuesday, the 17th instant, when the Servian Representative called on me in a state of great excitement and apparent alarm. He said the whole property of Servia was in Belgrade; that the destruction

of that city would be an irretrievable loss, and naturally render his countrymen desperate. He seemed to consider the act of the Pasha as altogether unaccountable, and from what he said, and a telegram received from Mr. Longworth about twenty minutes afterwards, I conjectured that a mutiny, which did not seem unlikely, was in the fortress. It was then about half-past 9 o'clock, and Aali and Fuad Pashas were at their country houses; but I sent off a messenger immediately with the news that had reached me, and which it appears had, through the same channel, already reached them, representing the urgent necessity of taking the most energetic steps for checking at once the bombardment, and bringing about, without delay, those explanations which might lead to a conciliatory arrangement.

It is but justice to say that the Porte on this occasion was as expeditious as the occasion demanded. The most positive orders not to fire from the fortress, except under the most imperative necessity, was sent off by telegram. In addition to Aali Bey, who was to have started on the following day, Achmed Vefyk Effendi, a person of high character and rank and acknowledged ability, was ordered to proceed at once to Belgrade, and in order that all personal questions (sometimes difficult to answer) might be removed from the arena of dispute, a new Governor, who was to accompany Achmed and Aali Bey, was appointed.

The first duties of the two functionaries were to inquire into the circumstances which had attended or caused the bombardment, and to pronounce an opinion on the conduct of the Governor who had ordered it (I should say, up to this time, the Porte had received no news from the Governor; the two telegrams, one dated the 17th, another the 19th, came in afterwards). The second was to endeavour, profiting by all circumstances that seemed to favour the attempt, to enter into friendly negotiations with the Servian Government, and, by restoring things to a normal state, render the settlement of old and long-standing disputes more easy.

I ordered Mr. Longworth to lose no time in seeing Achmed Vefyk after his arrival, and endeavouring to aid him in the objects of his mission.

It is not yet known, but probably will be before this despatch leaves Constantinople, whether Vefyk has arrived at the citadel, or whether it will even be possible for him to get there; but I do not, myself, look forward to serious obstacles on this score.

I had a long conversation with Aali Pasha at his yali yesterday morning on the subject of what arrangement he now considers not only desirable but possible. He recognizes that it would be out of the question to expect that the Servians should give up the gates they are in possession of; at the same time he represents the humiliation which this will be to the Sultan, unless the Porte obtains some counterbalancing advantage, and talks of the establishment of mixed Tribunals under the sanction of which the Turkish and Servian population might still continue to reside in that portion of the town (formerly, it is true, all Turkish) where their population is now intermingled.

For my own part I dissent from this view, for even if the Servians agreed to it, it would settle nothing, and only open the door to further and constant disputes. I do not think either that much will be got by examining former Matti-Sheriffs or old plans as to the fortress in a bygone state of things.

The rational course seems to me to throw all this ancient lumber of controversy aside, and to look at the points at issue plainly and practically both as to former intentions and present circumstances. The object of Europe is and was that Turkey should hold the fortress of Belgrade. It is necessary, therefore, that it should be in a defensible position. It is the object of Europe, also, that out of that fortress, and others (if they are to be maintained) which are well known, there should be no Turks residing in Servia, whether in Belgrade or elsewhere.

It seems to me, therefore, simply necessary, first, to ascertain what *enceinte* is necessary to the citadel for its safety, and to annex that to the citadel, adding such works as may be required; and secondly, to withdraw the Turks altogether from the rest of the city.

Private interests on either side may thus suffer, but a system for indemnifying them should be adopted.

Inclosure 1 in No. 9.

Achir Pasha to Aali Pasha.

(Traduction.)

(Télégraphique.)

Belgrade, le 17 Juin, 1862.

AUJOURD'HUI, à 1 heure (à la Turque), les Serbes ont attaqué publiquement et font feu sur la forteresse. Les cris répétés pour les engager à cesser le feu loin de produire aucun effet. Ils ont commencé à venir en forme de bataillon et augmenté leur feu à l'aide

des canons qu'ils ont apportés. Nous avons dû, de notre côté, recourir aux mêmes moyens, et le combat continue à l'heure qu'il est. Les Serviens font feu, d'une part, et, de l'autre, ils construisent des batteries et des retranchements vis-à-vis de quelques points de la forteresse. A cet effet ils ramassent du bois et des pierres.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.)

Belgrade, June 17, 1862.

TO-DAY, at 1 o'clock (Turkish time), the Servians made a public attack and are firing on the fortress. The repeated cries to induce them to cease firing are far from producing any effect. They began to come in the form of a battalion, and increased their fire by the aid of the guns which they brought. We have been obliged, on our side, to have recourse to the same means, and the combat is going on at the present time. The Servians are firing on one side, and, on the other, they are constructing batteries and entrenchments opposite several points of the fortress. For this purpose they are collecting wood and stones.

Inclosure 2 in No. 9.

Achir Pasha to Aali Pasha.

(Traduction.)

(Télégraphique.)

Belgrade, le 19 Juin, 1862.

MARDI, après que l'attaque des Serbes a été empêchée par la force ils ont continué de tirer de fusils jusqu'au soir du même jour. Dans la soirée de Mardi à Mercredi ils ont attaqué la batterie dite Medjidié et la porte de Widdin aux moyens de fusils et de deux obusiers. Nous y avons riposté par quelques coups de fusil, et par deux boulets. Depuis les Serviens ont complètement cessé leur feu, mais ils fortifient sans relâche leurs batteries.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.)

Belgrade, June 19, 1862.

ON Tuesday, after the attack of the Servians had been stopped by force, they continued to fire muskets up to the evening of the same day. On Tuesday evening they attacked the battery called Medjidié and the gate of Widdin by means of muskets and two howitzers. We answered with some musket-shots and two balls. Subsequently the Servians completely ceased firing, but they are fortifying their batteries without intermission.

No. 10.

Earl Russell to Earl Cowley.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, July 5, 1862.

THE Turkish Ambassador came to me yesterday at the Foreign Office.

I said that I thought it behoved the Sultan to consider very seriously the state of his Empire, and not to exhaust his resources in defending that which could not successfully be retained. That, for instance, the gates in the town of Belgrade, which were mere posts without fortifications, could not be held by some ten or twenty men at each post in the midst of a hostile population with any hope of success. They had now been given up by the advice of the Consuls, and could not be recovered without a bloody war in Servia.

The Ambassador said it might not be expedient to disturb the present state of possession, but the right would not be yielded.

I said with regard to the whole question the right was with the Sultan. But it behoves the Porte to consider the state of Turkey with a view to maintain what could be maintained, and to yield what could not be held.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received July 7.)

(Extract.)

St. Petersburg, June 29, 1862.

I WENT to Tsarskoe Selo this forenoon to receive Prince Gortchakoff's reply to your Lordship's last communication* respecting a settlement between Servia and the Porte.

Your Lordship suggested that if concessions involving the evacuation of certain posts at Belgrade, or of certain fortified places in the interior, be asked of the Porte with the view of preventing collisions, it would be desirable to confirm the Porte in the possession of the Citadel of Belgrade by securing to it the means of reinforcing and provisioning that fortress. You also desired that any counsels which might be offered to the Porte and the Servians should be impartial, and that the Servian Government should be discouraged from aiming at independence and violating its allegiance to the Suzerain Power and the Treaties to which it is lawfully bound.

I had already communicated your Lordship's sentiments to Prince Gortchakoff in writing the day before yesterday. I repeated them to his Excellency verbally, and asked him whether he had any remarks to offer to your Lordship in reply.

A long and rather desultory conversation ensued, of which the substance may be stated as follows:—

Prince Gortchakoff maintains the principle of the Suzeraineté of the Sultan in Servia, but holds that the relations of the Turkish Government and army with that province must be in several respects altered; he advises the evacuation of the gates and military positions occupied by the Turks in the town of Belgrade, as well as certain fortified places of little consideration in the interior of the country; he does not absolutely refuse to consider any compensatory demands which may be urged on the part of the Turkish Government for these concessions. Far from thinking it advisable, however, to strengthen the hold of the Turks on the Fortress of Belgrade, his Excellency is of opinion that that place might be ceded by the Porte with advantage; and he says that such a proposal, if started in the Conference at Constantinople, will meet with the support of the Russian Plenipotentiary. The Prince considers that the occupation of the citadel by the Turks will be a constant source of exasperation to the Servians, associated especially as it will be with the late outrages. He contends that it has lost all importance for the Turks, as the fortress no longer forms a defence for the Ottoman territory, now practically alienated in its vicinity, and no longer threatened on that side, as the sentiments of the Austrian Government are most friendly to the Porte. He believes that the Government of Russia will not be found alone in supporting that opinion, but if the proposal be definitively resisted by the Porte he will not urge it. He wishes that it might be advised by all the Powers in concert, when, in his Excellency's opinion, it would be easily acceded to at Constantinople.

The Prince will generally advise moderation on all sides, but he does not think that the Servians, in their present temper, would be most effectually recalled to reason and conciliation by being brusquely reminded of their subjection to the Sultan and their obligations under existing Treaties. Such representations might be made later more effectually, when the first effervescence of justifiable indignation and resistance has passed away.

His Excellency desires to refer the whole subject to the Conference at Constantinople, and will be happy to be made acquainted with the sense of your Lordship's instructions to Her Majesty's Ambassador.

In replying to the remarks of Prince Gortchakoff, I strongly contended against the notion of originating or supporting a proposal for the evacuation of the Fortress of Belgrade, an overture which, I said, would be energetically repelled by the Porte, and resisted to the last by Her Majesty's Government, and probably by that of Austria. I said that if the Servians became aware that a pretension of that sort would be supported by Russia, any vague advice to be moderate would become entirely useless. It was idle, I observed, to discuss whether the Fortress of Belgrade was materially useful to the Porte or not: that fortress was associated with the whole military history of Turkey; it was lawfully possessed by Turkey. The Turks are determined to keep it; no one now proposed its cession by the Sultan, and the Servians were manifestly incapable of capturing it. It was not to be believed that the Great Powers would suffer a prolonged and groundless continuance of hostilities at Belgrade; peace would be restored by one means or another, and a pacific settlement would be negotiated under the mediation of the guaranteeing Powers. To throw in this question wantonly of the cession of the Fortress of Belgrade would be a most superfluous and dangerous aggravation of existing difficulties.

* See No. 7.

I added that, although the recent conflict and loss of life were deeply to be regretted, I thought those incidents might still be turned to advantage: the questions between Turkey and Servia had come to a crisis; they might now be regulated definitively, and the settlement effected might ensure peace to all parties for many years.

His Excellency in general terms affirmed that he would do nothing to exasperate the controversy, and that he hoped it might be adjusted by pacific means.

No. 12.

Earl Russell to Consul-General Longworth.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, July 7, 1862.

I HAVE to instruct you to afford me a further explanation as to the cessation of the bombardment, and to inform me whether the bombardment was, as the Turkish Governor alleges, a measure of defence on his part against Servian attack.

No. 13.

Earl Russell to Sir H. Bulwer.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 7, 1862.

I HAVE to state to your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government, as at present informed, concur in the views regarding the late events at Belgrade which you have expressed in your despatch of the 18th of June.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 14.

Earl Russell to Sir H. Bulwer.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 9, 1862.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 24th of June, relating to the events which have occurred at Belgrade.

I entirely concur in your general views.

As to the past, I observe that Achir Pasha affirms that the fortress was attacked, not only by musketry, but by howitzers.

The Austrian Consul affirms, that when he was in the fortress the second time, when the bombardment had ceased, the fire of musketry on the part of the Servians was continual, and that three Turks were killed by it during the short period of his stay.

Mr. Consul Longworth, on the other hand, represents the bombardment as entirely unprovoked, and the mere effect of panic.

It is desirable to clear up these discrepancies.

With regard to the future, you will be, in a few days in possession of the views of Her Majesty's Government.

Her Majesty's Government concur with you in considering that the object of Europe was that the Fortress of Belgrade should be held by the Turks. It is now, as much as ever, the object of the British Government. Her Majesty's Government would, therefore, approve of any measures that may confirm and strengthen the hold of the Turks upon the Fortress of Belgrade.

Whether there are any other forts which it is necessary, or even useful, that the Turks should possess, is a question upon which Her Majesty's Government have not, at present, sufficient information to enable them to give a competent opinion.

Her Majesty's Government agree with you that Mixed Tribunals would only give rise to fresh disputes.

The Turks who choose to leave Servia should receive indemnity from the Servian Government; but those who choose to remain should be subject to Servian Tribunals and Servian police. This should be made clear to them, and they should be required to make their choice within a fixed period.

Upon these terms the present disputes might be settled, and, it is to be hoped, future contests avoided.

Her Majesty's Government agree with you in thinking that, while it is necessary to refer to the regulations of the past to ascertain the rights of both parties, the policy of the future must be directed by a calm review of the wants and requirements of the present time.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 15.

Earl Russell to Lord Napier.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, July 10, 1862.

I HAVE to instruct you to state to Prince Gortchakoff that Her Majesty is determined, in the Conferences proposed at Constantinople, to maintain the engagements contracted by Her Majesty in the Treaty of Paris of 1856.

Your Excellency will state that it is evident that Servia provoked the recent conflict at Belgrade, and that the murder of a Servian or a Turk was merely the occasion and pretext for an assault long premeditated.

The Russian Government will do well to reflect whether Russia can, with good faith towards the other Powers of Europe and towards Turkey, depart from Treaties so recently and so solemnly made.

You will state this in substance, but in the most courteous language, to Prince Gortchakoff. Her Majesty's Government are well aware that the sympathies of Russia for the Christians in the East are very strong; but if the Christians rob and murder and break their promises, they ought to forfeit the support of a Christian Government.

No. 16.

Earl Russell to Sir H. Bulwer.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 15, 1862.

I HAVE to state to your Excellency that the Representatives at Constantinople of the Great Powers ought, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, to call upon the Servians not to disturb the present *status quo* in Servia till the Conferences are terminated.

If the Servians should attack the Fortress of Belgrade with the object of capturing it, they would violate the Treaty of Paris, and must be held responsible for all the consequences.

I informed your Excellency, by telegraph, on the 10th instant, that Her Majesty's Government considered the Conferences respecting Servia should commence; that they saw no necessity for not summoning the Representatives of all the Powers parties to the Treaty of 1856; and that the King of Italy remains King of Sardinia as much as he was at the time that Treaty was entered into.

I have to instruct you to report to me why the Conference does not assemble, and to ask Aali Pasha to summon the Representatives of all the Powers who signed the Treaty of Paris.

I have to add that Great Britain cannot reasonably be asked or expected to guarantee the maintenance of the present *status quo* at Belgrade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 17.

Sir H. Bulwer to Earl Russell.—(Received July 18.)

(Extract.)

Constantinople, July 9, 1862.

THE last accounts from Belgrade leave it to be understood that a good deal of excitement has been got up amongst the Servian population. Large numbers of peasants surround, I am told, the fortress; the Turkish population is entirely driven from the town; and from the tone of the Russian Representative here, and the communications made by M. Garaschanin to the Porte and the Consuls, I think it appears pretty clear that the

Servian Government means to ask for the possession of the citadel at Belgrade, and also of all the other fortresses. I was fearful from the first that the line taken rather hastily, and certainly on rather imperfect and one-sided information by all the Consuls saving the Austrian, would have the effect of greatly exaggerating the Servian demands—and I say rather imperfect and one-sided information, because it seems clear now that though the Pasha might not, and was not, I think, justified in bombarding the town, he still received considerable provocation, and that the Servian Government was either unable or indisposed to protect the property of the Mussulmans which it had been engaged to do, or to prevent the Servian population from making hostile demonstrations against the fortress.

Achmed Vefyk at first wrote as if everything was easy, and an amicable arrangement almost certain. I felt pretty sure this would not be, and that a negotiation carried on between him and M. Garaschanin could hardly have a positive result.

This anticipation has proved correct, and the question should now, therefore, come before the Porte and the Representatives at Constantinople with the least possible delay, since hardly an hour passes which is not subject to some contingencies.

I have spoken to Fuad and Aali Pashas in this sense, and I hope our first meeting will be in the beginning of next week.

I think it not improbable that at that meeting the Porte, supported by the Austrian Representative and myself, will make certain proposals of a moderate and conciliatory character on all other points, maintaining in the strongest manner its right and determination to keep possession of the citadel at Belgrade; and also, as to the other fortresses, these might have been subject to negotiation, if the question of the fortress at Belgrade had not been raised; it may be difficult now to sanction an example which may subsequently be taken advantage of: still, on this point, I do not think the Porte so positive.

From the first I stated to your Lordship what I thought fair and reasonable, viz.:—

That the Turks should insist on maintaining the citadel of Belgrade in a defensible state, which implies with a certain foreground or *enceinte*.

The extent of this to be determined by military science; it being understood that the least space possible for safety should be assigned.

For this, a few houses belonging to Servians on the Save would probably have to be destroyed; all the rest would be Turkish houses.

The property without the *enceinte* might be ceded to the Servians, and a principle of reciprocal indemnity agreed to.

The Turks would then be withdrawn from the faubourg altogether, and the gates, so long in contestation, given up to the Servians, which I think they might be, being really useless to the Turks.

If the Porte makes a proposal of this kind—and it will probably have some difficulty about this—I do not see what more it can do, without giving up everything to Servia.

The principle—"Fortress to Turkey; out of fortress no Turks"—will be strictly observed; and more than this even the Servians themselves, before this last disturbance (which looking at its character and, as it would appear, long meditated design, hardly deserves encouragement), did not ask for.

It would tend greatly to make any reasonable arrangement practicable, if the Powers, or indeed two or three of the Powers, let it clearly be understood that any change in the citadel at Belgrade would be a change in the political situation of Europe that could not be sanctioned.

No. 18.

Earl Russell to Sir H. Bulwer.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 18, 1862.

THE Turkish Ambassador communicated to me yesterday a telegraphic despatch from Aali Pasha, stating the difficulties existing at the present moment in Servia, and proposing that the Great Powers should guarantee the *status quo* in that country until the questions in dispute should be decided.

I told M. Musurus that Her Majesty's Government could not consent to guarantee the present state of things, and that the first thing to be done was to summon a meeting of the Representatives of all the Powers who signed the Treaty of Paris.

I have to instruct your Excellency to attend this meeting, and read to the Representatives my instructions to you on the subject of Servia.

If some of the Representatives have received no instructions, and no joint advice can be given to the Porte, the Ottoman Government must in that case adopt such measures as may best preserve its authority, and fulfil reasonable expectations in Servia.

Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that the Sultan ought to keep the Fortress of Belgrade.

I sent you the substance of this despatch in a telegram of to-day.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 19.

Mr. Lumley to Earl Russell.—(Received July 21.)

(Extract.)

St. Petersburg, July 16, 1862.

ON the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 10th instant, instructing Lord Napier to inform Prince Gortchakoff of the course which Her Majesty's Government intended to follow at the approaching Conferences at Constantinople on the affairs of Servia, I inquired by telegraph when his Excellency could see me, and I proceeded to-day, by appointment, to Peterhoff, where the Court now is.

In carrying out your Lordship's instructions, I told his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government are well aware that the sympathies of Russia for the Christians in the East are very strong; but while respecting the religious feeling which the Emperor, his Government, and the whole Russian nation entertained for their co-religionists in Turkey, Her Majesty's Government considered that when Christians were guilty of robbery and murder, and broke their engagements, they ought to forfeit the support of a Christian Government.

I told his Excellency it was evident to Her Majesty's Government that the recent conflicts which had taken place at Belgrade had been excited by the Servians, who had made an insignificant quarrel the occasion and pretext of an assault long premeditated. I stated also that Her Majesty's Government would not believe that the Russian Government desired to act otherwise than in good faith towards the other Powers of Europe and towards Turkey, or that Russia intended to withdraw from Treaties so recently and solemnly made; and I added that Her Majesty's Government were determined, in the Conferences about to be held at Constantinople, to maintain all the engagements contracted by Her Majesty in the Treaty of Paris of 1856; without, however (while adhering to the spirit of that Treaty), refusing to examine impartially any propositions by which, while varying the means, the consistency of the Treaty may be kept inviolate, Her Majesty's Government being of opinion that it is only thus that it will be possible to preserve that general peace which is so necessary for the welfare of Europe.

Prince Gortchakoff's observations may be resumed as follows:—

With regard to the sentiments which animate the Russian Government in this question, his Excellency said they were not based on the identity of creed which connected Russia with their co-religionists in the East, but on the broader basis of humanity common to all Christians. What he contended for was, the necessity for the complete removal of all those disabilities under which the Christians suffered; for as long as the horrible feeling existed, that under Mahometan rule, not only were the lives and property of Christians endangered, but the honour of their wives and children was not safe from outrage, so long would the peace of the Turkish Empire be disturbed by the natural efforts of the oppressed to throw off the yoke of their oppressors.

Prince Gortchakoff said that he could by no means agree with your Lordship's proposition that, because Christians had robbed and murdered, they were to forfeit the support of a Christian Government; for these very crimes might be, as he believed they mostly were, merely reprisals for injuries of a like nature committed by the Turks.

Prince Gortchakoff demurred to the statement that it was evident the recent conflict at Belgrade had been excited by the Servians. He had every reason to believe the contrary had been the case, and that his views would be borne out by the opinion of Her Majesty's Consul-General in Servia, a gentleman and a man of honour, in whose version of the affair he would place implicit faith.

Prince Gortchakoff stated also that he utterly disbelieved the statement that the assault was a premeditated affair on the part of the Servians; but that this and other questions would be cleared up by the investigation now being carried on; and until the Reports of the Consuls with regard to it were received, it was impossible to pronounce a judgment with regard to the conflicting statements of what had occurred, and how it had been brought about.

With regard to the determination of Her Majesty's Government to adhere to the engagements contracted by the Treaty of Paris of 1856, Prince Gortchakoff said the

Russian Government was actuated by the same sentiment ; nevertheless, he considered the only means of coming to a satisfactory understanding would be by counselling moderation and concession on the part of the Turkish Government.

No. 20.

Consul-General Longworth to Earl Russell.—(Received July 21.)

My Lord,

Belgrade, July 11, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith inclosed to your Lordship the copy of a despatch dated the 3rd instant, addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, relative to the causes of the late disturbances in the town of Belgrade.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. A. LONGWORTH.

Inclosure 1 in No. 20.

Consul-General Longworth to Sir H. Bulwer.

(Extract.)

Belgrade, July 3, 1862.

A VERY imperfect conception of the causes of the late deplorable events at Belgrade could be formed were we to confine our view to them alone, or to the conflicting statements put forward with respect to them by the Turkish and Servian authorities. That of the latter, entitled an historical summary under date of the 1st instant, and of which I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency a copy herewith inclosed, traces them to a source which neither I nor any of my colleagues had before been aware of, namely, a squabble between a Jew baker and some Turks relative to a chimney, considered a dangerous nuisance in that neighbourhood. I have been assured by a respectable individual of the Jewish community living there, that there could be no possible connection between that incident and the tumult which ensued. The next circumstance alluded to is the murder of a Servian boy at a fountain : the Turkish Commissary Achmed Vefyk Effendi affirms that in the deposition of M. Garaschanin no mention was made of the boy, and that the murder is a pure invention. Of the boy, who is described in the report as dying, but not dead, though he declared himself to have been killed by the Turks, no traces can be discovered. There was a quarrel, it is true, between some Servian gendarmes and Turkish soldiers who were being dragged by the others to the Servian police office, and while resisting them were fired upon by the orders of the Servian dragoman Simeon. These orders had been repeatedly given by him, and a Turkish soldier had been shot by the gendarmes, when the Nizam under the command of the Voivode or Superintendent of the Turkish police fired on the Serbs and killed the dragoman in question. There can be no doubt as to the last fact, which, indeed, is admitted on all sides ; but what is singular is that of the fray as reported in this summary, the main feature is left out. It evidently originated in the attempt of the Servian gendarmes to conduct by force the Turkish soldiers to the Servian instead of their own police station, as the standing regulations founded on the Hatti-Sheriff prescribe.

Before pointing out why, and in what manner, this attempt was made, I think it necessary to take a preliminary view of the state of circumstances, and public feeling in the Principality, which may have been conducive to these results. This is the more requisite, perhaps, that the apologists of the Servian Government assign as the primary cause of them the irritation produced here by the delay of the Porte in sending out a Commissioner to settle the question of the withdrawal of the Turks resident outside the fortresses. In following out this plea, namely, the exasperation of the Servians, they seem to have forgotten how entirely it militates against the assertion they as positively make, that the Turks, and not the Servians, have been the aggressors on this occasion. The question thus raised as to the state of public feeling with a view of proving the Servians to have acted merely on the defensive, might be answered, I think, to your Excellency's satisfaction, and this in a way which must lead to a diametrically opposite conclusion.

But apart from these general considerations there is a chain of circumstances, proving beyond a doubt that what has taken place to a certain extent is the result not of accident, but of design and combination.

The disorder and perturbation of which Belgrade has been so long the theatre, the crisis of which has been the late outbreak, was in a great measure brought about by a body of men called gendarmerie. They were instituted by Prince Milosch, about a year after

his return to Belgrade, and consisted at first of 120 men. Before that time the Servian police had been composed of some thirty pandours, as they were called, who, co-operating with the Turkish police, succeeded perfectly in keeping the peace of the town—Turks and Servians living on the best terms together, and, as I have been assured by M. Garaschanin, only two riots having occurred, and one man been killed, during the course of the twenty years. The chief business of the gendarmerie was to intimidate the Turkish population, and gradually encroach on the functions of the Turkish police, so that they should be at length practically superseded by them. This force has been from time to time augmented, and last autumn, when the National Assembly was convoked at Kraguevatz, their numbers were doubled: their equipment and organization were also completed; in addition to pistols and side-arms, muskets and bayonets were kept in dépôt to be distributed to them on an emergency; they were also subjected to military drill and discipline. The moral composition of the corps was even more formidable than the physical. Its Chief was a certain Barlwatz Birkish, who, in the Revolution of 1842, assassinated the father of M. Garaschanin. The way in which it was for the most part, and more especially of late, recruited, was most scandalous. The best recommendation to employment seems to have been a character for ruffianism. Montenegrin and Bosniac refugees, animated by a spirit of vengeance against the Turks, were preferably enrolled in this corps. It was natural to expect that such men would not prove very manageable, or that their lawless ferocity could always be kept within the bounds prescribed by the interests of the Servian Government; it seems hardly fair, however, on the other hand, to visit these crimes with the severity it has been advised to do of late, nor will it thereby escape responsibility. The impression made by this system of terror on the Turkish population, who naturally shrink from a collision, well knowing by experience that, right or wrong, they would be sacrificed, was very painful to contemplate, when the Servians themselves, conscious they were driving them to despair, declared them to be arming: but I have been at great pains to clear up this accusation, and I feel convinced it was unfounded; they showed great patience and forbearance to the last.

The elements and instruments of mischief having been thus accumulated on the 23rd of May, an incident occurred which set fire to the train, resulting in the bombardment of Belgrade. One of the gendarmes, a Montenegrin, fired on a Turkish officer while attempting to force the guard at the Stamboul Gate. He was conducting two Turks to the Turkish police station within the town; he had refused to give them over to the guard, as the Pasha declares had always been the rule and custom.

The Pasha had undoubtedly serious grounds of complaint far more serious than those advanced by the Servians; but all he asked for was an inquiry: this was peremptorily refused by them; they demanded reparation without inquiry, and that of the most humiliating kind. In default of this, they declared the rights of the Porte, as settled by the Imperial Hatts, and guaranteed by the Powers, to be forfeited. They insisted that in future, the resident Turks should be taken to the Servian police stations, and judged by Servian tribunals. The fruits of all this violence and arrogance were soon displayed. The gendarmes began to murder the Turks; a poor boatman was hacked to death under circumstances of peculiar atrocity on the 25th of May. On the 5th of June a pandour of the Government fired his pistol at a Turkish officer, and killed a Tatar of the Austrian Government, under the very eyes of the Turkish guard at the Stamboul gate. Nothing could have served to show more clearly the pitch of audacity attained on one side, and the extreme of demoralization on the other, when, under a vague sense of responsibility, soldiers could be brought to witness this outrage, without resenting it immediately.

The only thing they did was to clear the gates at which they were posted by way of precaution, for they were threatened with another assault by the gendarmerie and the populace. The gate, which is but a gate in name, standing alone, and affording no obstruction even when shut, for it can be passed on either side, became at once an object of the highest possible interest.

The Minister of the Interior, accompanied by the French Consul-General, clamoured loudly for admittance, but though the Turkish Police Superintendent, and not as they stated their own officer, begged them to open the gates, the guard very properly refused to do so till they should receive orders from the Pasha in the fortress. This event, insignificant as it may appear, was the pretext for a violent attack upon the Turkish authorities. In the document of which I inclose your Excellency a copy, omitting all mention of the atrocious murder which had caused the disturbances, and was the sole point deserving of notice, M. Garaschanin raises a cry of alarm and distress as if not only their privileges, but their very existence was at stake, and in which he invokes the aid of all the guaranteeing Powers of Europe. This circular, both as to style and matter, affords an apt illustration of the peculiar tactics of the Servian Government, and I

must particularly call your Excellency's attention to it. Viewed with reference to what had actually taken place, it is perfectly unintelligible, but it must be examined by the light of subsequent events.

Three days after the issue of this circular the Prince of Servia, unmindful of the dangers which M. Garaschanin had declared to be impending over Belgrade, proceeded on a tour to the interior, leaving the devoted city to its fate. It must be evident, therefore, either that he totally disbelieved the statements made with respect to the armament of the Turks, or that to evade responsibility he wished to be out of the way in the event of an outbreak. Both the one and the other supposition, however, may be well founded.

It may be in your Excellency's recollection that I expressed my uneasiness at the Prince's departure under these circumstances, foreboding as I did some serious calamity. I feel convinced, however, that he could not have anticipated the bombardment, or he would not have left the Princess at that time behind him. But to return to the Servian historical summary, and to the proximate causes of the tumult of the 15th of June, it should be distinctly borne in mind, I repeat, that it originated in the attempt of the Servian gendarmes to drag Turkish soldiers to the Servian police; and that this unlawful proceeding was a direct consequence of the arbitrary declaration of M. Garaschanin contrary to law and precedent, in his letter of the 25th Zilhidje, that the Turks should be henceforward judged by Servian tribunals. This unfounded pretension it should also be remembered was put forward on the occasion of the first affair of the Stamboul Gate, into which the Servian Government had refused all inquiry. The time was now come to profit by this infraction. The 15th of June, which had been by mistake announced as the Sultan's festival, was generally looked forward to with apprehension. It was not true that the Turks, as stated in M. Garaschanin's letter, had been arming themselves. This report had, on the contrary, by the Pasha been proved to be false; still M. Garaschanin's warning gave general uneasiness. The gendarmes also were observed from an early hour that day to be on the alert, endeavouring by every means in their power to provoke the Turks. On three different occasions they found means to interfere in disputes of a trifling character, seeking to aggravate them, and in all of these a Servian dragoman of the name of Simeon Nicksitch, who headed one of these parties, was observed to excite them to acts of violence; the words "fire," "strike," being, according to the evidence I have heard, never out of his mouth. It was in the execution of this kind of work that the wretched man was himself stricken.

After long and patient investigation I conscientiously believe that the true cause and origin of the murderous tumult of the 15th was as above stated.

With respect to the particulars given in the historical summary they are not remarkable for impartiality. I fear this is the usual way of writing history here. It would seem as if all the murders and misdeeds had been committed by the Turks, and none whatever by the Servians, but their best friends cannot bear them out in this report. My French colleague saw a poor old Turk with a fruit-basket on his head in front of his hotel savagely stabbed and cut down by a Montenegrin, and a lady, a relative of my Prussian colleague, witnessed another aged Mussulman chased into his shop and there butchered by the mob. We all of us saw carts transporting bodies of Turks to the fortress the next day, and among the rest a cart full of Turkish women dreadfully mangled. The fact is that the number of killed was about the same on both sides, amounting to upwards of fifty, with about the same number of wounded; the difference consists in this, that the Turks fought in defence of their lives, hearths, and property, and the Servians were the assailants. It is absurd to suppose that the Turkish soldiers who barricaded themselves in the guard-houses, that is, all who could not immediately escape to the fortress, and the residents who had locked themselves in their houses, could have been acting on the offensive.

In the Servian narrative not a word is said of the plunder of the Turkish and Jewish quarters, which were, nevertheless, completely ransacked. It has been asserted, I know, that this took place after the bombardment; but M. Garaschanin himself assured me on the 16th that it occurred the night before: he deplored the event, and told me that the sufferers would be indemnified. For an historical *résumé*, the document in question is by no means exact in the information it supplies as to the means by which relations and a subsequent understanding were established between the Servian Government and the Pasha; that the Consular Body, however, were instrumental, I need not say how far, in securing this result your Excellency may gather from a telegram I received at the time from the Prince of Servia, and a copy of which I transmit herewith inclosed.

From the facts and circumstances I have above stated, your Excellency, I hope, may form some idea of the causes which, in the first instance, led to the bombardment. How it was immediately brought about I have no direct evidence to offer; but I have a strong moral conviction, supported by the testimony of others upon the subject.

About a quarter of an hour after the bombardment had begun I reached the esplanade of the fortress, and found the streets and houses facing it entirely deserted, for they were placed under a heavy fire. I had subsequently reason to believe, however, that this had not been the case a few minutes before, but that most of these habitations which had been severely battered in the front had been occupied by tirailleurs, under cover of whose fire some idle demonstrations of attack on the fortress had been made by the gendarmes and the rabble, whose habits of bravado against the Turks had encouraged them in the belief that they might attempt anything against them with impunity. All this I am disposed to think had been done without the knowledge or sanction of the Government, or at least of that section of it directed by M. Garaschanin ; but there are so many evil influences at work here, and so much that the Government finds convenient to ignore, that it is impossible to say where its complicity begins or ends in such matters. It is certain, however, that the bulk of the population of the town had not the most distant idea of what was going on in the front, or the mischief it might lead to.

The Turks on their side, including the wretched fugitives crowded within the walls of the fortress, and who had just been ruined and robbed of all they had in the world, who had seen their wives and families murdered before their eyes, could not possibly, when they thought they were about to be again attacked in their last place of refuge, but stand to their arms and return the fire of their assailants.

There can be no doubt but that, from an early hour in the morning, shots had been exchanged with them and their old tormentors the gendarmes ; this fire had soon increased, and the Pasha, a civilian unable to resist the torrent, and believing the fortress to be in jeopardy, yielded at length to the panic, and recommended the bombardment. He committed a serious fault, the effect of fear and ignorance, and entailing the most disastrous consequences ; but there are others far more culpable than he.

Inclosure 2 in No. 20.

Historical Summary of the late Events at Belgrade.

LE 15^e Juin, un Juif, maître d'école, qui habitait une maison Turque dans le quartier de Dortyol, fut menacé par les Turcs du voisinage d'être expulsé de son habitation, en opposition au contrat de location qu'il avait conclu. Entre 3 et 4 heures de l'après midi, le Flodja, préposé à la police du quartier de la part de l'autorité Turque, vint, accompagné de deux Turcs, procéder à l'expulsion du Juif, disant qu'il agissait d'après les instructions du Pacha, et qu'il avait le pouvoir de mettre feu à la maison plutôt que de laisser le Juif continuer à l'habiter. Le locataire effrayé s'enfuit ; les Turcs munis des haches commencèrent à détruire la cheminée ; le rassemblement de la foule qui en résultat motiva la présence du Drogman de la Police, Siméon Nicksitch, et de trois gendarmes qui vinrent voir ce qui s'y passait. Un officier Turc qui était survenu sur les entrefaits dit au Drogman qu'il allait lui-même se mêler de l'affaire, et qu'il en soutiendra l'exécution avec 300 Nizams, tous prêts à accourir si l'autorité Serbe y intervenait. Le Drogman communiqua cette menace à la Préfecture, dont le Chef, accompagné du Voivode Turc, se rendit sur les lieux. Le Flodja, avec ses deux complices, furent envoyés à la forteresse. Chemin faisant le Flodja déclara aux agents de la Préfecture Serbe et de la police Turque qui l'escortaient, qu'il aurait pu démolir la maison toute entière, le Pacha lui en ayant donné l'autorisation. On ne peut savoir ce qu'il y a de vrai dans ses mots, mais le fait est, qu'avant qu'une heure se soit passée, ont vit le Flodja et ses deux complices revenir libres dans la ville.

Un peu plus tard, vers 7 heures, un garçon courut avertir la Préfecture que les Nizams avaient tué un Serbe à Tchoukour-Tchesmé. Ce meurtre avait été occasionné par la circonstance que les Nizams, quoique arrivés à la fontaine après le Serbe, voulant puiser l'eau avant lui, l'avaient repoussé et cassé sa cruche. Le Drogman Nicksitch y fut envoyé avec quelques gendarmes. Les agents de l'autorité trouvèrent Sava Petravics, au service du Bakal Alexis Nicolitch, presque expirant auprès la fontaine du Tchoukour-Tchesmé. Sava eut encore la force de dire qu'il avait été tué par trois Nizams, qui étaient encore là, ce que confirmèrent plusieurs femmes qui avaient vu de leurs fenêtres tout ce qu'il s'était passé.

Les gendarmes transportèrent le mourant à la Préfecture, et le Drogman engagea les Nizams à l'accompagner chez le Voivode Turc, qui fera l'enquête. Les Nizams pour s'y soustraire affirmèrent de n'être pas auteurs du crime. Mais sur la réponse du Drogman qu'ils n'avaient rien à craindre s'ils étaient réellement innocents, ils consentirent à s'en aller avec lui. Lorsque les Nizams de la police Turque les virent s'approcher une quinzaine des Nizams précédés d'un officier coururent à leur rencontre avec les baïonnettes baissées.

Le Drogman leur dit, "Rentrez ; il n'y a rien ; un des nôtres a été tué ; on fera une enquête." Le Drogman, qui jusqu'alors s'était tenu tout près des trois Nizams, s'en éloigna d'un ou de deux pas, sur quoi on entendit la décharge d'un fusil du côté de la police Turque, et l'on vit tout-à-coup du front du bâtiment habité par la police Turque tomber du mortier qui avait masqué jusqu'alors des créneaux pratiqués secrètement dans les murs. A la première détonation, l'officier qui s'était avancé avec les Nizams à la rencontre du Drogman abaissait vers le sol le sabre qu'il tenait nu, et à ce signal ses Nizams tirèrent. Le Drogman, le gendarme Pierre Bonovitch, et le garde de nuit Milan, tombèrent morts. Georges pandour et le gendarme Alexis furent grièvement blessés. Le Drogman était tout criblé de balles, et son uniforme brûlait, parcequ'on avait tiré sur lui à bout portant. Le seul gendarme qui n'avait pas été atteint se ménagea à l'aide d'une décharge la retraite vers la Préfecture.

A partir de ce moment, les Nizams, rentrés dans la police, continuèrent à tirer à travers les créneaux et par les fenêtres sur tous les passants. Ils tuèrent ainsi devant la maison de Agi Marco, un garçon nommé Elie, de la corporation des Chaudronniers ; dans la maison d'Indje Tatar, une femme nommée Marie Josiphovitch ; près de la maison d'Agi Marco l'étudiant Théodore Loukitch, qui y était attiré par la curiosité. Ils se plaisaient même de tirer sur les cadavres inanimés de leurs victimes, ne permettant à personne de les enlever.

A la décharge continuelle des fusils, tout le monde vit que la sécurité publique était exposée aux plus graves dangers, et s'arma pour sa défense. Cependant un détachement de Nizams, sorti de la forteresse sous la conduite d'un officier, défilait du côté de Bariak-Djamie, pour se rendre à la police Turque. La population réunie devant la maison de Koutoula s'opposa au passage de ces soldats qui allaient renforcer ceux qui tiraient sur les Serbes.

Au moment où ces Nizams étaient sur le point de se servir de la force et tenaient les baïonnettes baissées, M. Garaschanin arriva sur les lieux, et après avoir très longuement et très vivement insisté auprès d'eux pour les engager à retourner dans la forteresse, ils firent semblant de vouloir rebrousser chemin si on leur donnait une escorte pour leur sûreté. M. Garaschanin designât à cet effet l'officier de la gendarmerie Soko Prokitch, avec quatre ou cinq gendarmes. Dès qu'ils arrivèrent sous cette escorte dans la rue de Zérèk un des Nizams fit feu, et les autres, sur l'ordre de leur officier, suivirent sous exemple. L'officier Prokitch tomba tué et deux gendarmes furent grièvement blessés, dont l'un est déjà mort de ses blessures. Après cette décharge les Nizams en firent une autre sur le peuple qui accourait à la première détonation. Ici s'engagea une lutte qui fut courte à cause de la retraite que les Nizams effectuèrent vers la forteresse en passant par Calé Meydan. Ils emportèrent un de leurs tués ou blessé. Dès qu'il se fut rendu à la Préfecture M. Garaschanin envoya appeler le Voivode pour se concerter avec lui sur les mesures à prendre à fin d'arrêter le feu, mais les Nizams du poste de la police Turque ne laissèrent approcher personne. Ils firent une nouvelle décharge sur tous ceux qui étaient en vue de la police, femmes et enfants y compris.

Le développement tout à fait combiné du conflit fait grandement supposer qu'il y avait eu entente préalable entre les troupes régulières et les bourgeois Turcs contre la population Serbe. Cette supposition acquiert un degré de vraisemblance par la circonstance qu'en même temps que ces conflits partiels surgissaient dans le quartier Turc et aux environs de la police, les Nizams qui étaient de garde à toutes les portes de la ville, et les bourgeois retirés dans les cafés voisins, commencèrent à tirer indistinctement sur tous les Serbes qui se trouvaient à la portée de leurs fusils.

Le corps de garde de Stambol-Kapou sur le premier bruit des coups de fusil a immédiatement fermé la porte et s'est barricadé.

A Varoch-Kapou les Nizams tuèrent le cordonnier Nicolas de Fagodina ; Ouroche Prokitch, garçon d'un épicier ; Prokas Trandafilovitch, marchand des légumes ; et Svetoza Dimitrievics, garçon de boutique ; et blessèrent Nicolas Stoissilevics, orfèvre. Ceci causa un combat avec les Serbes, à la suite duquel et après une demi heure de résistance ils se retirèrent sur la porte de Sava-Kapou. En effectuant cette retraite ils tirèrent continuellement sur les maisons Serbes auprès desquelles ils passaient, cassèrent tous les vitres, tuèrent un Serbe Gyoka Georges, et blessèrent une femme enceinte, Marie Pavlovitch, native de Karlovats, au moment où elle allumait une veilleuse dans sa chambre.

S'étant réuni au corps de garde de Sava-Kapou ils ne cessèrent pas la fusillade tant que la trompette de la forteresse ne leur donna à trois reprises le signal d'abandonner cette porte.

Ont été blessés par cette fusillade les nommés Kosta Dimitrievics, Marian Stanichitch, aubergiste, Naoum Fanascovitch, marchand de lait, et Stanicha Voukovitch, étudiant, qui déjà est mort de ces blessures.

Avant cette collision plusieurs Turcs avaient mis leurs femmes en sûreté dans la forteresse. Quelques unes de ces femmes avaient prédit le conflit aux dames Serbes de leur voisinage ; mais personne n'y avait cru.

Ce n'est qu'à présent qu'on comprend toute la portée de certaines menaces, de même que de certains avertissements et conseils amicaux de leur part.

Un certain nombre de Turcs s'étaient postés dans des mosquées, d'où ils tiraient sur les Serbes et leurs maisons dans toutes les directions, rendant impossible le passage par les rues environnantes, et ne laissant personne approcher. Les Serbes prirent alors des embuscades pour les déloger. Dans la mosquée près de l'Eglise Protestante les Serbes, après une assez longue fusillade, offrirent aux Turcs de leur garantir la vie sauve s'ils se rendaient. Ils promirent de se rendre, mais lorsqu'on s'approcha d'eux pour leur tendre la main en signe de la paix ils tirèrent de nouveau, et tuèrent sur place trois Serbes qui leur tendaient la main. La fusillade recommença, et ce n'est que plus tard qu'ils consentirent à se rendre et à être conduit dans la maison communale, d'où ils ont été plus tard conduits dans la forteresse. Après leur départ de la mosquée on y a trouvé une caisse remplie de poudre avec plusieurs fusils de réserve ; ce qui prouve que l'attaque a été préparée.

Durant ce conflit, l'autorité Serbe a en vain cherché à se mettre en rapport avec les agents de la police Turque pour s'entendre sur les moyens de faire cesser l'effusion du sang. Il a fallu donc s'adresser à Achir Pacha lui-même, lequel vers minuit a donné son assentiment à ce qu'une partie de troupes régulières Serbes entra dans la ville. Mais en présence d'une fusillade continuelle venant de tous les côtes, les troupes régulières, consistant d'abord de deux et plus tard de trois compagnies, ne firent que rester sur la grande place jusqu'au matin du $\frac{4}{16}$ Juin. Vers 4 heures du matin du même jour la fusillade dans la ville a été augmentée de celle venant des remparts de la forteresse, la quelle dernière s'est continuée même pendant que MM. les Consuls et M. Garaschanin étaient en conférence avec Achir Pacha, jusqu'au moment où ils en sont sortis pour rentrer en ville, en compagnie du Caimacam, à fin de reconduire dans la forteresse les Nizams et les autres Turcs qui se trouvaient dans la ville. La fusillade dans la ville, et surtout dans le quartier de Dortyol, quoique plus rare n'a pas discontinué même pendant qu'on reconduisait les Turcs dans la forteresse. Au surplus, après le départ du corps de garde de Stamboul-Kapou et des bourgeois qui s'étaient établis cette nuit dans les cafés qui environnent ce poste, on a blessé mortellement dans le même quartier à coups de yatagan un jeune homme Serbe, qui a été montré au Caimacam, et qui est mort à la suite de ses blessures.

D'après les premières relevées approximatives le nombre de victimes de ce conflit a été du côté des Serbes de 26 tués et 22 blessés.

La fusillade dans le quartier de Dortyol ayant continué dans la journée de Lundi $\frac{4}{16}$ jusqu'à ce que les Musulmans de ce quartier n'aient fini par se rendre à l'appel qui leur a été adressé par le Caimacam et M. Garaschanin, pour se rendre dans la forteresse, ce n'est qu'après leur départ, vers 4 heures de l'après midi, que les troupes Serbes ont pu occuper ces quartiers, et dès ce moment jusqu'au bombardement l'ordre non interrompu y a été maintenu.

L'aurore du $\frac{5}{17}$ Juin trouvait la ville parfaitement tranquille, mais la fusillade partant des remparts de la forteresse recommença entre 6 et 7 heures du matin.

Lorsqu'on avertit M. Garaschanin que les Nizams tiraient sur les bourgeois dans la direction de l'Eglise Cathédrale il envoya son Drogman prier Achir Pacha d'ordonner aux Nizams la cessation des hostilités ; Achir Pacha promit que la fusillade cessera immédiatement. On ignore s'il donna des ordres en conséquence, mais le fait est que la fusillade continua encore de temps à temps.

A 7 heures et demie du matin Mohamed Efendi Tabak Ibrahimovitch vint communiquer à M. Garaschanin l'invitation d'Achir Pacha de se rendre à la forteresse. Il se dit chargé de la même invitation pour Mr. Longworth et les autres Consuls. M. Garaschanin fait remarquer à Mohamed Efendi les inconvénients auxquels il s'exposerait en circulant seul dans la ville, et lui conseilla de conduire plutôt à la préfecture deux Turcs qui étaient restés dans la ville, M. Garaschanin prenant sur lui-même de faire parvenir à MM. les Consuls l'invitation du Pacha. Tabak Ibrahimovitch accepta cette proposition en ajoutant que le Pacha avait envoyé ses compliments à M. Garaschanin et le pria de lui envoyer du café et quelques chariots de foin. M. Garaschanin donna immédiatement des ordres à cet effet et s'empressa à communiquer à MM. les Consuls l'invitation du Pacha en les priant de se rendre à la préfecture, où il allait les attendre. Sur la place de la préfecture se préparait au départ le convoi funèbre du Drogman et de l'officier de la gendarmerie, et une foule nombreuse d'hommes et de femmes, de vieillards et d'enfants s'y étaient rendus.

Le convoi n'avait pas encore quitté la place de la préfecture, lorsque M. le Consul de France et de Prusse y arrivèrent ; et il ne s'était éloigné que de quelques mètres de Stamboul-Kapou, en prenant la rue de Térasia, lorsque tout-à-coup on entendit de la

forteresse une décharge de fusils suivie d'une effrayante détonation d'artillerie. La foule se dispersa et les soldats réguliers qui accompagnaient le convoi coururent reprendre leurs stations sur la grande place.

Une grande partie de négociants et d'artisans avait déjà commencé à ouvrir leurs magasins ; d'autres suivaient le convoi ; au Lycée, aux gymnases, et au séminaire, on tenait ce jour là les examens annuels, qui avaient déjà commencé quelques jours avant.

Le bombardement mit en fuite tout le monde dans la plus grande confusion. Des mères perdirent leurs enfants, des fils leurs vieux parents, des frères, des amis abandonnèrent leurs malades cloués au lit, et qu'ils ne pouvaient pas sauver.

Plusieurs jour après, bien des hommes erraient de village en village à la recherche de leurs femmes, enfants, et autres parents.

Les troupes Serbes embusquées derrière de frêles maisons ne répondaient que par la fusillade au feu meurtrier des canons de la forteresse. Pendant 4 heures et demie de bombardement et tout jusqu'à présent pas un des canons Serbes ne fut déchargé ni introduit dans la ville. Malgré ça et en opposition à sa promesse postérieure, Achir Pacha fit de nouveau décharger vers les 11 heures du soir onze canons précédés et suivis de la fusillade, qu'aucun prétexte, pas même un coup de fusil, n'avait provoqué. On ignore même jusqu'à ce jour le motif de cette attaque réitérée, de même qu'on ne connaît non plus les causes de la première.

*Belgrade, le 19 Juin
1 Juillet, 1862.*

(Translation.)

On the 3rd June, a Jewish schoolmaster, who inhabited a Turkish house in the Dortyol quarter, was threatened by the Turks of the neighbourhood with expulsion from his dwelling-place, in contravention of the contract under which he held. Between 3 and 4 in the afternoon, the Flodja, placed at the head of the police of the quarter by the Turkish authorities, came accompanied by two Turks, and commenced expelling the Jew, saying that he acted under instructions from the Pasha, and that he had power to set fire to the house rather than allow the Jew to continue inhabiting it. The frightened occupier fled ; the Turks, who were provided with hatchets, began to destroy the chimney ; the consequent assemblage of a crowd necessitated the presence of the Dragoman of police, Simeon Nicksitch, and of three gendarmes who came to see what was going on. Meantime a Turkish officer who had arrived told the Dragoman that he was going to take part in the affair himself, and that he would help to carry it out with 300 Nizams, who were all ready to run up, if the Servian authorities interfered. The Dragoman communicated this threat to the Prefecture, the Chief of which, accompanied by the Turkish Voivode, arrived on the spot. The Flodja and his two accomplices were sent to the fortress. On the road the Flodja declared to the Agents of the Servian Prefecture and of the Turkish police who were escorting him, that he could have demolished the whole house, as the Pasha had authorized him to do so. One cannot tell what truth there is in these words, but it is a fact that, before the lapse of an hour, the Flodja and his two accomplices were seen returning to the town at liberty.

A little later, towards 7 o'clock, a boy ran to apprise the Prefecture that the Nizams had killed a Servian at Tchoukour-Tchesmé. This murder was occasioned by the circumstance that the Nizams, although they had come to the fountain after the Servian, wishing to draw water before him, had pushed him away and broken his pitcher. The Dragoman Nicksitch was sent there with several gendarmes. The agents of the authorities found Sava Petravics, who was in the service of the Bakal Alexis Nicolitch, almost expiring near the fountain of Tchoukour-Tchesmé. Sava had still strength enough to say that he had been killed by three Nizams, who were still there, and this was confirmed by several women who had seen from their windows all that had passed.

The gendarmes transported the dying man to the Prefecture, and the Dragoman requested the Nizams to accompany him to the Turkish Voivode, who would hold an inquiry. The Nizams, to avoid this, declared that they were not the authors of the crime. But upon the Dragoman answering that that they had nothing to fear if they were really innocent, they consented to go away with him. When the Nizams of the Turkish police saw them approaching, fifteen of the Nizams, preceded by an officer ran to meet them with lowered bayonets. The Dragoman said to them, " Go in again, it is nothing ; one of our men has been killed ; there will be an inquiry." The Dragoman, who up to that time had kept quite close to the three Nizams, retreated one or two steps from them, whereupon the discharge of a musket was heard on the side of the Turkish police, and suddenly from the front of the building inhabited by the Turkish police some mortar was seen to fall, which had till then masked battlements secretly made in the walls. At the first shot, the officer who had advanced with the Nizams to meet the Dragoman pointed to the ground

the sabre which he was holding drawn, and at this signal his Nizams fired. The Dragoman, the gendarme Pierre Bonovitch, and the watchman Milan, fell dead. The pandour Georges and the gendarme Alexis were severely wounded. The Dragoman was quite riddled with balls, and his uniform was burning, because they had fired close at him. The only gendarme who was not hit covered his retreat to the Prefecture under fire.

From this moment, the Nizams, having returned to the police, continued firing through the battlements and from the windows on all the passers-by. In this way they killed before the house of Agi Marco a boy named Elias, of the corporation of coppersmiths; in the house of Indje Tatar, a woman named Marie Josiphovitch; near the house of Agi Marco, the student Theodore Loukitch, who had been attracted there by curiosity. They even amused themselves with firing at the inanimate corpses of their victims, not allowing any one to carry them away.

As the discharge of muskets continued, every one saw that the public security was exposed to the gravest danger, and armed himself for defence. Meanwhile a detachment of Nizams left the fortress led by an officer, and defiled on the Bariak-Djamie side, on their road to the Turkish police. The population collected before the house of Koutoula opposed the passage of these soldiers, who were going to reinforce those who were firing on the Servians.

Just as these Nizams were on the point of using force, and were keeping their bayonets lowered, M. Garaschanin arrived on the spot, and when he had at great length and with much earnestness endeavoured to prevail upon them to return to the fortress, they pretended to be willing to turn back if an escort were given them for their security. M. Garaschanin selected for this purpose Soko Prokitch, a Gendarmerie officer, with four or five gendarmes. As soon as they arrived, under this escort, at Zérèk street, one of the Nizams fired, and the others, by order of their officer, followed his example. The officer Prokitch fell dead, and two gendarmes were severely wounded, one of whom is already dead of his wounds. After this discharge the Nizams fired another on the people, who ran up at the first detonation. Here a fight began which did not last long, because the Nizams effected their retreat towards the fortress by way of Calé Meydan. They carried off one of their men who was killed or wounded. As soon as he reached the Prefecture, M. Garaschanin sent for the Voivode, to concert with him on the measures to be taken in order to stop the firing, but the Nizams of the post of the Turkish police did not allow any one to approach. They fired another volley on all those who were in view of the police, including women and children.

The development of the conflict, being quite combined, gives great reason for supposing that there had been a previous understanding between the regular troops and the Turkish citizens against the Servian population. This supposition becomes more probable from the circumstance that at the very time these partial conflicts were arising in the Turkish quarter and in the neighbourhood of the police, the Nizams, who were on guard at all the gates of the town, and the citizens who had retired to the neighbouring café, began to fire without distinction on all the Servians who happened to be within musket-shot.

The guard of Stambol-Kapou, on the first sound of musketry, immediately shut their gate and barricaded themselves.

At Varoch-Kapou the Nizams killed the shoemaker Nicolas de Fagodina; Ouroche Prokitch, grocer's boy; Prokas Trandafilovitch, dealer in vegetables; and Svetoza Dimitrievics, shop-boy; and wounded Nicolas Stoissilevics, goldsmith. This caused a combat with the Servians, in consequence of which, and after half-an-hour's resistance, they retired on the gate of Sava-Kapou. Whilst effecting this retreat they fired continually on the Servian houses by which they passed, broke all the windows, killed a Servian, Gyoka Georges, and wounded a pregnant woman, Marie Pavlovitch, a native of Karlovats, just as she was lighting a night-lamp in her room.

Having joined the guard of Sava-Kapou, they did not cease firing till the trumpet of the fortress had three times given them the signal to abandon this gate.

There were wounded by this fire, Kosta Dinitrievics; Marian Stanichitch, inn-keeper; Naoum Fanascovitch, dealer in milk; and Stanicha Voukovitch, student, who is already dead of these wounds.

Before this collision several Turks had put their women for safety into the fortress. Several of these women had foretold the conflict to the Servian ladies of their neighbourhood, but no one believed in it.

It is only now that one understands all the meaning of certain threats, as well as of certain warnings and friendly advice on their part.

A certain number of Turks had posted themselves in mosques, whence they fired on the Servians and their houses in all directions, rendering a passage through the surrounding

streets impossible, and allowing no one to approach. The Servians then made ambuscades to dislodge them. In the mosque near the Protestant church, the Servians, after a prolonged firing, offered to the Turks to guarantee their lives if they would surrender. They promised to surrender, but when the others approached them for the purpose of offering them their hands, in sign of peace, they again fired, and killed on the spot three Servians who were holding out their hands to them. The firing re-commenced, and it was only later that they consented to surrender and to be conducted to the communal house, whence they were subsequently conducted to the fortress. After their departure from the mosque a case was found there filled, with powder, and several reserve muskets, which proves that the attack was prepared.

During this conflict, the Servian authorities sought in vain to place themselves in communication with the agents of the Turkish police, to come to an understanding as to the means for putting an end to the bloodshed. It was, therefore, necessary to have recourse to Achir Pasha himself, and towards midnight he gave his consent to the entry of a party of regular Servian troops into the town. But in the presence of a continual firing from all sides, the regular troops, consisting first of two and later of three companies, only remained on the great square till the morning of the $\frac{4}{16}$ th June. Towards 4 o'clock on the morning of the same day, the firing in the city was increased by that coming from the ramparts of the fortress, which latter was continued even whilst the Consuls and M. Garaschanin were in conference with Aali Pasha, up to the moment when they left there to return to the town, in company with the Kaimakam, in order to reconduct to the fortress the Nizams and the other Turks who were in the town. The firing in the town, and especially in the Dortyol quarter, although less frequent, did not discontinue even whilst the Turks were being reconducted to the fortress. Besides, after the departure of the guard of Stamboul-Kapou and of the citizens who had established themselves that night in the cafés which were in the neighbourhood of this post, a young Servian, who was shown to the Kaimakam, and who died of his wounds, was mortally wounded by yataghans in the same quarter.

According to the first approximative statements the number of victims of this conflict, on the side of the Servians, were twenty-six killed and twenty-two wounded.

The firing in the Dortyol quarter having continued during Monday the $\frac{4}{16}$ th, until the the Mussulmans of that quarter had finally submitted to the appeal made to them by the Kaimakam and M. Garaschanin, to go into the fortress, it was only towards 4 o'clock in the afternoon that the Servian troops were able to occupy these quarters, and from that moment up to the bombardment uninterrupted order was maintained there.

Daybreak of the $\frac{5}{17}$ th June found the town perfectly tranquil, but the firing coming from the ramparts of the fortress recommenced between 6 and 7 in the morning.

When M. Garaschanin was apprized that the Nizams were firing on the citizens in the direction of the Cathedral Church, he sent his Dragoman to beg Achir Pasha to order the Nizams to cease hostilities; Achir Pasha promised that the firing should cease immediately. It is not known whether he gave any orders in consequence, but it is a fact that the firing still continued from time to time.

At half-past 7 in the morning, Mohamed Efendi Tabak Ibrahimovitch came to communicate to M. Garaschanin an invitation from Achir Pasha to visit the fortress. He said he was entrusted with the like invitation for Mr. Longworth and the other Consuls. M. Garaschanin pointed out to Mohamed Efendi the inconvenience to which he would be exposed if he were to go about the town alone, and advised him rather to conduct to the Prefecture two Turks who had remained in the town, M. Garaschanin taking upon himself to have the Pasha's invitation conveyed to the Consuls. Tabak Ibrahimovitch accepted this proposal, adding that the Pasha sent his compliments to M. Garaschanin, and begged him to send him some coffee and some loads of hay. M. Garaschanin immediately gave orders to that effect, and hastened to communicate the Pasha's invitation to the Consuls, begging them to assemble at the Prefecture, where he was going to await them. In the square of the Prefecture, the funeral procession of the Dragoman and the Gendarmerie officer was preparing to set off, and a numerous crowd of men and women, old men and children, had gathered together there.

The procession had not yet quitted the square of the Prefecture, when the French and Prussian Consuls arrived there, and it had only proceeded several mètres from Stamboul-Kapou, by the street of Terasia, when all at once a discharge of musketry from the fortress was heard, followed by a frightful detonation of artillery. The crowd dispersed, and the regular soldiers which accompanied the procession ran to resume their stations in the great square.

A large number of merchants and artizans had already begun to open their shops; others followed the procession; at the Lyceum, at the Gymnasium, and at the Seminary,

the annual examinations, which had already commenced some days previously, were being held on that day.

The bombardment put everybody to flight in the greatest confusion. Mothers lost their children, sons their old parents, brothers, friends abandoned their invalids who were confined to their beds, and whom they could not save.

Several days afterwards, many men were wandering from village to village in search of their wives, children, and other relations.

The Servian troops, ambuscaded behind fragile houses, only replied by musket-shots to the murderous fire from the guns of the fortress. During four hours and a-half of bombardment, and up to the present moment, not one of the Servian guns was fired nor brought into the town. Notwithstanding this, and in opposition to his later promise, Achir Pasha caused eleven guns to be fired towards 11 o'clock at night, preceded and followed by musket-shots, which no pretext, not even a musket-shot, had provoked. The motive of this reiterated attack is not even known up to this day, any more than the causes of the first are known.

*Belgrade, ^{June 19}
July 1, 1862.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 20.

M. Garaschanin to Achir Pasha.

(Traduction.)

25 Zilhidge.

DANS l'entrevue que j'ai eu l'honneur d'avoir avec vous hier vers le soir dans la forteresse Impériale, j'avais entretenu de vive voix votre Excellence de l'état tout critique où en étaient arrivés, dans la même journée, l'ordre et la sécurité du faubourg de Belgrade. Ainsi qu'il résultait de mes communications verbales à cet égard, il était question de deux personnes appartenant à la population Musulmane lesquelles ayant été dans l'état d'ivresse et s'étant livrées à quelques actes coupables au dehors du faubourg, avaient été arrêtées par deux gendarmes pour être remises à leurs autorités respectives, suivant la règle suivie en pareil cas par la police de la ville. Au même moment, lorsque ces deux détenus avaient été conduits à la porte dite "Stamboul," les troupes Impériales stationnant à cette porte ont attaqué les dits gendarmes, et se sont mises à les frapper, en vue de dégager de leurs mains les détenus. C'est dans cette occurrence que l'officier de ce détachement en station, se mettant à la tête des assaillants, a tenu d'une main, par le collet, un des gendarmes, et de l'autre il lui a arraché les aiguillettes de son uniforme.

Bien qu'une pareille conduite de la part des troupes eût été de nature à donner lieu à des événements déplorables, à une effusion de sang, et à bien d'autres suites fâcheuses, fort heureusement tout ce danger avait pu être conjuré. Néanmoins, après même que les efforts de l'autorité Serbe étaient parvenus à rétablir l'ordre et la tranquillité publiques, il devenait nécessaire, dans l'intérêt du maintien de la sécurité et pour apaiser la surexcitation survenu dans l'esprit public, de remplacer, tout d'abord, par d'autres troupes le corps de garde et l'officier commandant de la porte susmentionnée, et, en second lieu, d'interdire à ce dernier, comme punition, de sortir dorénavant aux portes du dehors, ainsi que du faubourg. Et, malgré l'avertissement que j'ai donné dès hier à votre Excellence de la nécessité de cette mesure n'ayant pas rencontré auprès d'elle le consentement empressé auquel j'avais tout lieu de m'attendre, dès lors et à fin de prévenir le retour d'un état de choses aussi anormal et propre à mettre en danger l'ordre public et à surexciter la population, je me suis vu forcé avant notre séparation de déclarer à votre Excellence que, dorénavant, toute personne de la population Musulmane qui serait prévenue de quelque délit ou de quelque conduite coupable, au lieu d'être rendue à son autorité, serait remise directement entre les mains de la police Serbe pour être punie d'après les prescriptions de la loi.

Cette demande et cet avertissement, conformes à l'équité, et qui avaient pour objet de prévenir et de reprimer tout désordre prévu, ne pouvaient manquer de recevoir la pleine approbation de votre Excellence; et bien que je fusse dans l'attente d'une initiative de sa part à cet égard, je déclare à mon grand regret que je n'ai eu jusqu'ici aucun indice dans le sens de l'exécution des différents objets de mes pourparlers précédents.

Dans cet état de choses je viens une nouvelle fois et par écrit avertir votre Excellence de la nécessité où l'Administration se trouve réduite de mettre à exécution les mesures dont j'ai eu l'honneur de vous entretenir de vive voix, en vue de prémunir l'ordre de notre ville contre tout acte propre à y porter atteinte. Aussi, bien que l'Administration Serbe soit-elle prête à adopter, sans aucune perte de temps, toutes les mesures nécessaires à l'effet de veiller, conformément aux obligations qui lui incombent, au maintien de l'ordre et de la sécurité voulus; si, contrairement à ces dispositions, il vient à surgir quelque

événement tendant à troubler l'ordre rétabli, il est évident que toute la responsabilité en retomberait sur celle des deux parties qui, en pareil cas, aurait décliné son concours réciproque.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) GARASCHANIN.

(Translation.)

25 Zilkidje.

IN the interview which I had the honour of having with you yesterday towards evening in the Imperial fortress, I spoke to your Excellency of the very critical state in which the order and security of the suburb of Belgrade was placed, on that same day. As resulted from my verbal communications in this respect, the question was that of two persons belonging to the Mussulman population who, having been in a state of drunkenness, and having indulged in some culpable acts outside the suburb, had been arrested by two gendarmes in order to be given up to their respective authorities, according to the rule observed in like cases by the town police. At the same moment, when these two prisoners had been conducted to the gate called "Stamboul," the Imperial troops stationed at that gate attacked the said gendarmes, and proceeded to strike them, with the view of getting the prisoners out of their hands. It was upon this that the officer of the detachment stationed there, putting himself at the head of the assailants, with one hand held one of the gendarmes by the collar, and with the other tore off the shoulder-knots of his uniform.

Although such conduct on the part of the troops was of a nature to cause deplorable events, bloodshed, and many other sad consequences, very luckily all this danger has been avoided. Nevertheless, even after the efforts of the Servian authorities had succeeded in re-establishing public order and tranquillity, it became necessary, in the interest of the maintenance of security, and to appease the over-excitement which had taken possession of the public mind, to replace, immediately, by other troops, the guard and the officer commanding the above-mentioned gate, and, in the second place, thenceforward to interdict the latter, as a punishment, from going out of the outer gates, as well as of those of the suburb. And although the warning which I yesterday gave your Excellency of the necessity of this measure did not meet from you with the eager assent which I had every reason to expect, I then, and in order to prevent the return of a state of things so abnormal and so calculated to endanger public order, and to over-excite the population, found myself obliged, before we separated, to declare to your Excellency that, thenceforward, every person of the Mussulman population who might be accused of some crime or culpable conduct, instead of being given up to his authorities, should be delivered directly into the hands of the Servian police, to be punished according to the provisions of the law.

This demand and this warning, conformable to equity, and having for their object to prevent and to repress every foreseen disorder, could not fail to receive your Excellency's full approbation; still, although I did expect an initiative on your part in this respect, to my great regret I declare that hitherto I have found no trace of anything tending to carry out the different objects of the discussions I have had with you.

In this state of things I once more, and in writing, warn your Excellency of the necessity to which the Administration is reduced of putting into execution the measures of which I had the honour to speak to you in person, with the view of preserving order in our town from every act calculated to disturb it. Hence, although the Servian Administration is ready to adopt, without any loss of time, all the measures necessary for watching over the maintenance of the desired order and security, conformably to the obligations by which it is bound; if, contrary to these dispositions, any event were to arise tending to disturb the order which has been re-established, it is evident that all the responsibility thereof would fall upon that one of the two parties which, in a like case, had declined its reciprocal aid.

Accept, &c.
(Signed) GARASCHANIN.

Inclosure 4 in No. 20.

M. Garaschanin to Consul-General Longworth.

Monsieur,

Belgrade, le 25 Mai, 1862.

L'ÉVÉNEMENT d'hier soir à Stamboul-Kapu, qui est le second survenu depuis quelques jours, la conduite hostile du poste militaire Turc et sa désobéissance aux ordres de son autorité, ainsi que le prompt armement des habitants Turcs, sont de nouveaux et clairs indices de risque auquel cette ville est exposée. Le Gouvernement Princier en vue

d'une fermentation toujours croissante qui s'est emparée tant des Turcs que des Serbes, et qui n'est que la conséquence naturelle du dernier événement, ne peut pas garantir qu'il lui sera possible d'éviter cette fois-ci, comme dans le premier cas, les grands malheurs que peuvent amener les événements en question ; encore moins peut-il prendre la responsabilité des désordres qui en pourraient naître et qui menacent de grossir, ni peut-il entreprendre la charge sérieuse de maintenir l'ordre public.

Etant parvenus à tous les moyens pour imprimer sur la Sublime Porte l'urgente nécessité de faire cesser aussitôt que possible l'état des choses en cette ville, état qui couvre tant de malheurs, il ne reste au Gouvernement de son Altesse que d'invoquer vivement l'attention des Puissances garantes sur le danger dans lequel se trouve cette ville, ou au moins en appeler à leur sagesse et à leur bienveillance.

Il n'est pas nécessaire, Monsieur, de vous représenter que l'état de cette ville est tellement pénible qu'il ne dépend maintenant que de la volonté des quelques hommes irréfléchis pour la mettre en flammes, car vous le connaissez vous-même et aussi comment l'état actuel des choses et les dangers auxquels il est associés ont été dénaturés. Pour cette raison il ne me reste par ordre exprès de son Altesse qu'à vous prier de vouloir bien employer toute votre influence auprès de votre haut Gouvernement à fin qu'il y mette un terme tout dans l'intérêt de l'humanité que dans celui de la Porte et de la Serbie.

(Signé) GARASCHANIN.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Belgrade, May 25, 1862.

THE occurrence of yesterday at Stamboul-Kapou, which is the second that has happened in the last few days, the hostile conduct of the military Turkish post, and their disobedience to the orders of their authorities, as well as the prompt arming of the Turkish inhabitants,—are new and clear indications of the risk to which this town is exposed. The Government of the Prince, seeing the continually increasing fermentation which has taken hold of the Turks as well as the Servians, and which is only the natural consequence of the late occurrence, cannot guarantee that it will be possible to avoid this time, as in the first case, the great misfortunes which the events in question may produce ; still less can it take the responsibility of the disorders which might arise therefrom, and which threaten to increase, nor can it undertake the serious charge of maintaining public order.

Having tried every means for impressing on the Sublime Porte the urgent necessity of putting an end as soon as possible to the very important state of things in this town, it only remains for the Government of His Highness earnestly to call the attention of the guaranteeing Powers to the danger in which this town is placed, or at least to make an appeal to their wisdom and good nature.

It is not necessary, Sir, to represent to you that the state of this town is so painful that it now only depends on the will of certain unreflecting men to put it in flames ; for you know it yourself, and also how the actual state of things and the dangers with which it is allied have been misrepresented. For this reason it only remains for me, by express order of His Highness, to beg you to have the goodness to employ all your influence with your exalted Government in order that they may put an end to that state, as well in the interest of humanity as in that of the Porte and of Servia.

(Signed) GARASCHANIN.

Inclosure 5 in No. 20.

The Prince of Servia to Consul-General Longworth.

Schabats, le $\frac{4}{16}$ Juin, 1862.

LE Prince de Serbie à Mr. Longworth, doyen du Corps Consulaire à Belgrade.

Je remercie tout le Corps Consulaire et particulièrement vous, Monsieur, de s'être occupé amicalement et avec sacrifice la nuit passée de manière à donner à mes autorités la facilité de faire cesser une plus grande effusion de sang et sauver toute la population de Belgrade des conséquences plus sérieuses.

(Translation.)

Schabats, June $\frac{4}{16}$, 1862.

THE Prince of Servia to Mr. Longworth, doyen of the Consular Body at Belgrade.

I thank the whole Consular Body, and you, Sir, in particular, for having occupied yourselves last night in a friendly manner, and at personal sacrifice, so as to render

assistance to my Authorities in putting a stop to much bloodshed, and in preventing most serious consequences to the whole population of Belgrade.

No. 21.

Consul-General Longworth to Earl Russell.—(Received July 21.)

My Lord,

Belgrade, July 11, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith inclosed to your Lordship the copy of a despatch dated Belgrade, the 9th instant, and addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, conveying additional information to his Excellency relative to the inquiry now pending as to the facts connected with the bombardment of Belgrade.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. A. LONGWORTH.

Inclosure 1 in No. 21.

Consul-General Longworth to Sir H. Bulwer.

Sir,

Belgrade, July 9, 1862.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 3rd instant, and to the inquiry now pending as to the facts connected with the bombardment of Belgrade, I have a few additional statements to make to your Excellency.

On the evening of the 8th of June, and that preceding the event in question, I received a note, of which a copy is inclosed from M. Garaschanin.

Your Excellency will see from its tenor that a revolt was anticipated in the fortress, as well as the consequent bombardment of the town.

On the receipt of this note I did not lose a moment's time, but proceeded to the fortress, and urged in the strongest manner on the Pasha the necessity of prudence and decision under the circumstances under which he was placed. He acknowledged to me that he found it very difficult to repress the fury of the crowd of refugees burning to avenge themselves on the townspeople, but that with his consent, and while he preserved his authority, no act of violence would be permitted.

I was a good deal reassured by these promises, and though the number of refugees I observed prowling with guns in their hands about the ramparts gave me some alarm, I on the whole felt confidence, trusting to the promise of the Pasha. It was for this reason, combined with the report, universally credited the next morning, that I thought there must have been a mutiny, and on the same grounds I must plead some justification for my indignation, and the reluctance I at first felt to a fresh understanding with the Pasha, though it must be admitted, in extenuation of his conduct, that it was caused by fear of a revolt, if not a revolt itself.

In the letter which he subsequently addressed to the Consular Body, and of which a copy is herewith inclosed, the Pasha evidently writes under the influence of a panic, which either prevented him seeing anything, or made him magnify and distort everything he saw: of this there can be no question when he talks of columns of attack. The evening after the bombardment some guns were certainly advanced towards the fortress, and the Turks maintain that four shells were discharged over it, which they answered by firing seven guns. The Servians deny this; but the weight of evidence is on the other side.

Your Excellency will, moreover, observe that the Pasha had only sent his messenger (it is not true he sent four) to M. Garaschanin and myself twenty minutes before the firing commenced. Had he waited for us a few minutes more, the bombardment might have been prevented, or at any rate might then have been executed according to the form and usage of civilized warfare. As it was, he sacrificed his messenger, trifled with the Consular Body, and compromised himself.

All this may serve to throw some obscurity on the real and primary causes of this catastrophe, but cannot prevent them from being eventually recognized.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. A. LONGWORTH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 21.

M. Garaschanin to Consul-General Longworth.

Mon cher M. Longworth,

Le Lundi, après midi.

J'APPRENDS d'une source assez sérieuse que les Turcs se révoltent contre le Pacha dans le but d'opérer le bombardement de la ville. D'autres disent que cette prétendue revolte, simulée ou réelle, servira de prétexte au bombardement. Sans pouvoir ajouter foi entière à des bruits aussi sinistres, je trouve néanmoins la chose assez grave pour prendre la liberté de vous en entretenir. Qu'en pensez-vous, mon cher Mr. Longworth, et y aurait-il moyen de nous éclairer, sinon rassurer, là-dessus ? Ne trouvez pas mauvais que je recoure dans cette circonstance aussi à vos bons conseils, et que je réclame votre concours amical pour la continuation et l'achèvement d'un œuvre d'ordre et d'humanité pour laquelle le Gouvernement et la population Serbes vous en sont si redevable.

J'attendrai un mot de votre part, et suis, &c.

(Signé)

GARASCHANIN.

(Translation.)

My dear Mr. Longworth,

Monday afternoon.

I LEARN from a pretty sure source that the Turks are revolting against the Pasha, with the object of effecting the bombardment of the town. Others say that this pretended revolt, whether simulated or real, will serve as a pretext for the bombardment. Without being able to attach entire credence to such inauspicious reports, I still find the matter sufficiently serious for me to take the liberty of addressing you upon it. What do you think of it, my dear Mr. Longworth, and is there any means of enlightening us, if not of reassuring us, in this respect ? Do not be displeased that on this occasion also I have recourse to your good advice, and that I claim your kind assistance in the continuation and accomplishment of a work of order and humanity in respect of which the Servian Government and population owe so much to you.

I await a line from you, and am, &c.

(Signed)

GARASCHANIN.

Inclosure 3 in No. 21.

Achir and Ethem Pashas to the Consuls at Belgrade.

(Traduction.)

[No date.]

LES Serbes après avoir tiré hier au soir des coups de fusils sur la forteresse Impériale ont mis quelques détachements de l'armée Serbe en face de Stamboul-Kapu et de Sava-Kapu. Ce procédé est contraire aux promesses que M. Garaschanin a donné solennellement hier matin. Pour trouver un moyen d'arrêter des pareils procédés, qui sont contraires aux promesses que M. Garaschanin a données dans cette forteresse Impériale et en présence de tous les Consuls des Puissances amies, nous avons envoyé le Secrétaire des canoniers Mahmoud Effendi, qui s'est rendu d'abord chez M. Garaschanin et ensuite chez le Consul Anglais pour vous inviter à venir dans la forteresse. Mais aussitôt après le départ du dit Mahmoud Effendi, trente minutes ne s'étaient encore passées, beaucoup de Serbes et de l'armée Serbe ont commencé à faire feu d'abord sur la Viddinc-Kapu et puis sur la Stamboul-Kapu, et de très fortes masses ont donné l'assaut aux dites portes.

Les Serbes ont amené des canons aussi, et des canons et des maisons qui sont en face de la forteresse ont soutenu un feu fort sur la forteresse. Nous avons supporté plus de dix minutes cette attaque ouverte sur la forteresse et nous avons beaucoup crié et exhorté les Serbes de se retirer et de cesser le feu, mais ils n'ont voulu écouter ; au contraire ils ont continué l'attaque de deux parts avec des masses encore plus nombreuses.

Confiant dans l'assurance de M. Garaschanin les portes de la forteresse n'étaient qu'à demi fermées et les ponts n'étaient pas même levés.

Malheureusement nous avons dû, tout d'accord, décider d'employer la force et d'arrêter ainsi cette attaque des Serbes ; c'est pourquoi on a un peu tiré de la forteresse. Mais même après que nous avons cessé le feu les Serbes ont continué à jeter des balles sur la forteresse, et en outre ils se sont fortifiés en face des quelques endroits de la forteresse dans la terre et érigé de fortes barricades de bois et de pierres.

En vous donnant l'assurance positive qu'on ne tirera nullement plus de la forteresse si les Serbes ne l'attaquent ouvertement comme ce matin avec des canons et des fusils, nous

vous prions pour votre intervention énergique afin que les Serbes s'abstiennent des procédés pareils à ceux de ce matin.

(Translation.)

[No date.]

THE Servians after having fired some musket-shots yesterday evening at the Imperial fortress, have placed some detachments of the Servian army opposite Stamboul-Kapou and Sava-Kapou. This proceeding is contrary to the promises which M. Garaschanin solemnly gave yesterday morning. To find a means of putting a stop to such proceedings, which are contrary to the promises which M. Garaschanin gave in this Imperial fortress, and in presence of all the Consuls of friendly Powers, we sent the Secretary of the gunners, Mahmoud Effendi, who first went to M. Garaschanin's and then to the English Consul's to invite you to come to the fortress. But immediately after the departure of the said Mahmoud Effendi, before the expiration of half-an-hour, many Servians and Servian soldiers commenced firing first on the Viddine-Kapou and then on the Stamboul-Kapou, and some very strong masses made assaults on the said gates.

The Servians also brought some guns, and the guns and houses which are opposite the fortress kept up a strong fire on the fortress. For more than ten minutes we sustained the attack opened on the fortress, and we kept crying out and exhorting the Servians to retire and cease firing, but they would not listen to us; on the contrary, they continued the attack on two sides with still more numerous masses.

On the faith of M. Garaschanin's assurance the gates of the fortress were only half shut and the bridges were not even raised.

Unfortunately we were obliged, unanimously, to determine to employ force and thus to stop this attack of the Servians; this is the reason some shots were fired from the fortress. But even after we had ceased firing, the Servians continued throwing shot into the fortress, and, besides, they fortified themselves opposite different parts of the fortress in the ground and erected strong barricades of wood and stones.

In giving you a positive assurance that there shall be no more firing from the fortress, if the Servians do not attack it openly as they did this morning with guns and muskets, we beg you to interfere energetically in order that the Servians may abstain from proceedings similar to those of this morning.

No. 22.

Consul-General Longworth to Earl Russell.—(Received July 21.)

My Lord,

Belgrade, July 12, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith inclosed to your Lordship, the copy of a despatch dated Belgrade, 12th July, 1862, and addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, relative to the conduct of the Servian Government in endeavouring to avoid a full and impartial inquiry as to the circumstances connected with the late bombardment of Belgrade, and also as to the hostile policy adopted by Servia against the Porte.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. A. LONGWORTH.

Inclosure in No. 22.

Consul-General Longworth to Sir H. Bulwer.

(Extract.)

Belgrade, July 12, 1862.

I AM sorry to have to report to your Excellency that the Servian Government has not manifested a desire to promote a full and fair inquiry into the circumstances connected with the late bombardment of Belgrade. The Imperial Commissioner, Achmed Vefyk Effendi, instead of obtaining the frank co-operation and facilities which were to be expected, has been thwarted almost at every step. After establishing relations with the authorities, in effecting which, as your Excellency will see by the inclosed correspondence, unnecessary difficulties (on both sides perhaps) were raised, the Commissioners, as an indispensable means of arriving at the truth, requested that he might be allowed to examine such Servian witnesses as he might think it necessary to call. M. Garaschanin, however, falling back on the national privileges, declared that Servians could only be examined by

their own magistrates. The Commissioner, if he chose, could be present at such investigation. This, however, he at once declined, experience having proved the futility of such a course.

In availing themselves of this technical difficulty, the object of the Servian Government is less, perhaps, to be attributed to an affected jealousy of rights which nobody disputes, than a determination to baffle inquiry. This has certainly been now confined within narrow limits. Turkish witnesses from the town and the fortress have been examined by the Commissioner himself, who is of opinion that to have subjected them to a public inquest, while the evidence of the Serbs was taken only by their own authorities, would not have tended to secure the results which impartial justice demands.

The Servian Government seems as averse to confidence in the future as inquiry into the past. The frank demeanour and spirit of conciliation shown by the Commissioner have been met with haughtiness and reserve by the Prince.

Achmed Vefyk's visit was returned only ten days after it was made, and it was not without some importunity on my part that his Highness could be prevailed upon to take this step, which even then he did in an ungracious and incomplete manner, having appointed the place of meeting at a public hotel, instead of proceeding to the fortress or the esplanade, where I had proposed a tent should be prepared. All intercourse seems, in consequence, to have been since suspended between them, which is much to be regretted on many accounts.

Instead of seeking to restore confidence, the Government tries by every means to inculcate the belief that it is henceforth impossible, and that nothing short of the cession or demolition of the fortress will induce the fugitive population to return to their homes. The city is, in the meanwhile, deserted, and all the streets opening on the esplanade barricaded. About 7,000 troops, regular and irregular, occupy the place of the inhabitants. The same feeling of mistrust displays itself in the towns and forts of the interior, where Turks and Servians assumed an attitude of hostile observation. The Porte's Commissioner and the Servian Government are in constant communication with the respective authorities to prevent a collision. Along the whole of the frontier a movement of Turkish troops is observable, and alarms are raised and transmitted here every day by telegraph. The Servians are collecting bands of militia and Bashi-Bazouks on different points, and seem preparing for a *levée en masse*. I doubt, however, whether they have any serious intention of going to war, or if this is anything more than a political demonstration such as the Servians are accustomed to, and have more than once found so profitable; only this is on a somewhat larger scale, and meant to influence the decisions of the Conference at Constantinople.

The hopes of the Prince are undoubtedly high, if not extravagant, at this moment; he has made up his mind apparently to have the fortress.

With respect to the project itself, if it is really to be entertained or discussed, it certainly has one recommendation, namely, that it would separate the elements, and diminish the chances of future collision. In other respects—as the reward of successful craft and intrigue, as violating the most solemn engagements and the Treaties founded on them, as opening new fields to the ambition of the Prince, who already makes a merit, in his letters to the guaranteeing Governments, of not having hitherto assisted the rebels of Bosnia and the Herzegovina—the settlement in question would appear fraught with peril, and subversive of the best rights and interests of the Ottoman Empire. It would seem as if all these are placed on a fatal declivity, so that it is most difficult, if not impossible, to regain any ground that has been lost.

It may be fairly demanded, also, when the Servians ask what security they will have for the safety of the town against future bombardment, how the Turks, on their side, are to be guaranteed against the renewal of the plots and attacks which led to the last.

Without some foundation of the kind to repose upon, I am convinced the work, however skilful, will have to be constantly recommenced; but with the securities I have indicated, the dispositions, though faulty in themselves, will, like those which existed before the restoration of the reigning family, be of comparatively easy execution.

These may be classed under three heads:—

1. Regulations with respect to the gates of the town.
2. Regulations with respect to the resident Turkish population.
3. Regulations of police, Turkish and Mixed.

The question of the gates may, in a great measure, be considered to have been practically settled by late events. It is many years since that, for purposes either military or municipal, they have been of any use; they were, in fact, an anachronism. These four gates, the "Saac," the "Varosh," the "Stamboul," and the "Widdin-Kapu," are situated on four points of the old ditch and ramparts which inclose the town from the Save to the

Danube, and which, though not fortified at present, leave clear traces of the former outworks of the fortress.

The space within was, thirty years ago, unoccupied for some distance from the ditch, but is now covered with houses up to the edge of the ditch, so that the gates are but such in name, being, in fact, only Turkish military posts in the midst of Servian houses and a Servian population. They served, indeed, as landmarks to the town, over which the Pasha claims a joint jurisdiction with the Prince. The right of the Pasha to hold these gates has been disputed by the Servians, but never, that I am aware of, on good grounds. Still, the Turks must have been long since persuaded they were untenable. They could not be defended in case of attack, nor could the guards fall back from them upon the fortress without risking the loss of more than half their numbers; at least such was the opinion I heard given by Ethem Pasha, the military commander. In their isolated positions, moreover, the soldiers, hemmed in and insulted by the gendarmes and the mob, were gradually becoming demoralized.

The Turkish resident population consisted of 630 families, that is to say, 3,270 souls, among whom were included two companies of trained artillerymen, who could be employed, if necessary, in the fortress. Till lately they lived on the best terms with the Servians, and would have remained so but for the machinations of the Government. It would depend entirely on the latter to induce the Turks, or, at least, the majority of them, to settle again in the town; nor would they object, I believe, to a considerable modification of the police regulations, so as to prevent misunderstanding between the Turkish and Servian authorities, and give a certain control to the latter.

I believe the Servians are quite as much interested as the Turks in the maintenance of the Turkish quarter in Belgrade. In the first place, it would offer a security against any sudden act of violence, such as the late bombardment, on the part of the fortress; and it would, secondly, be the means of keeping up the communication and traffic between the town and the fortress, so essential to the interests of both. The supplies furnished to the garrison amount, in the year, to something like 60,000*l.*, which, to a town like Belgrade, must form a considerable portion of its revenue. Should these relations of the town with the fortress be severed, the latter would become a dependency of Semlin—entirely so, indeed, in a material point of view, and, to a certain extent, for political and military purposes.

These are considerations which I have urged upon both the Prince and M. Garaschanin, and I have found they have their weight, particularly with the latter.

No. 23.

Consul-General Longworth to Earl Russell—(Received July 21.)

My Lord,

Belgrade, July 12, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith inclosed to your Lordship, a letter addressed by Prince Michael to your Lordship, and dated Belgrade, July 9, 1862. In this letter his Highness complains that the Servians have lately been the victims of violence and aggression, that the bombardment of the town by the Turks was an act of injustice, and that the Servian population have been compelled entirely through fear to evacuate the capital.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. A. LONGWORTH.

Inclosure in No. 23.

Prince Michael to Earl Russell.

My Lord,

Belgrade, le ^{27 Juin}_{9 Juillet}, 1862.

LE Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine connaît les violences et l'agression dont le peuple Serbe a été récemment victime. Au moment où mes autorités faisaient tous les efforts possibles pour maintenir l'ordre et assurer la tranquillité publique, un bombardement sans exemple dans l'histoire, au mépris de toutes les lois divines et humaines, sans aucun avertissement, sans motif même, comme cela a été constaté par le corps Consulaire, a semé l'épouvante dans la population et transformé la capitale de mon pays, le centre du commerce et des richesses de toute la Serbie, en une ville déserte et ruinée. Le fruit de tant de labeurs, la fortune des milliers de familles se trouvent ainsi anéantis et perdus; une

cité jusqu'à présent prospère a reculé de vingt années en arrière, et Dieu seul sait quand et comment pourra être réparé un mal aussi grand, qui nous a atteint en pleine paix, lorsque sur la foi des Traités et sous la garantie des grandes Puissances Européennes nous nous croyions en parfaite sécurité.

Fidèle à toutes les lois de la loyauté, je n'ai pas hésité, my Lord, à reprimer l'élan tout naturel de mon peuple en faveur de ses frères de l'Herzégovine et de la Bosnie, et à faire même des sacrifices douloureux à mon cœur, uniquement dans le but de ne pas manquer en quoi que ce soit à mes devoirs de loyauté envers le Suzerain, et de prévenir et arrêter ainsi des complications et des conflagrations ultérieures.

En agissant ainsi, my Lord, j'étais bien loin de penser que la ruine de la ville de Belgrade et les funestes conséquences qui en résultent, seraient la récompense d'une pareille conduite.

Je prie votre Seigneurie de juger elle-même s'il est possible à la Serbie de se résigner à un sort aussi désespérant. Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine peut-il laisser ce pays en proie à une épouvante continuelle, et à la merci du plus simple accident, du plus pur hasard ? Peut-il surtout laisser se défaire l'œuvre d'humanité et de civilisation, qu'il a jusqu'à présent en commun avec les autres Puissances garantes aidée et favorisée en Serbie ?

Je craindrais d'abuser de votre attention, my Lord, en soumettant à votre appréciation tout ce que j'aurais à dire sur cet important sujet. Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine est d'ailleurs saisi de mes réclamations. Je me bornerai donc ici à appeler la bienveillance particulière de votre Seigneurie en faveur de mes justes plaintes, et à prier par votre organe le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté de ne pas abandonner la Serbie dans ce danger extrême sans sa puissante assistance. La sécurité, la paix, et le bonheur d'un million d'habitants attendent leur salut des arrangements que le Gouvernement Britannique est appelé à prendre en commun avec la Sublime Porte et les Puissances garantes pour préserver la Serbie et la paix générale de l'Empire Ottoman de pareilles catastrophes.

En priant avec instance votre Seigneurie de daigner accorder son puissant appui à la cause de mon pays, je vous prie, &c.

(Signé)

M. W. OBRENOVITSCH.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Belgrade, ^{June 27}_{July 9}, 1862.

THE Government of Her Majesty the Queen are aware of the violence and oppression of which the Servian people have recently been the victims. At the moment my authorities were making every possible effort to maintain order and assure public tranquillity, a bombardment without example in history, in contempt of all divine and human laws, without any warning, even without motive, as has been established by the Consular body, has spread a panic through the population, and transformed the capital of my country, the centre of the commerce and of the riches of the whole of Servia, into a deserted and ruined town. The fruit of so much toil, the fortunes of thousands of families, are thus annihilated and lost; a city hitherto prosperous has gone back twenty years, and God knows when and how so great an evil can be repaired, which has reached us in the midst of peace, when, on the faith of Treaties and under the guarantee of the great European Powers, we believed ourselves in perfect security.

Faithful to all the laws of loyalty, I did not hesitate, my Lord, to repress the quite natural impulse of my people in favour of their brothers of the Herzegovine and Bosnia, and even to make sacrifices painful to my heart, solely with the object of not failing in any way whatever in my duties of loyalty towards the Suzerain, and of thus preventing and putting a stop to ulterior complications and conflagrations.

In acting thus, my Lord, I was far from thinking that the ruin of the town of Belgrade, and the fatal consequences which result from it, would be the recompense of such conduct.

I beg your Lordship to judge for yourself whether it is possible for Servia to resign herself to so hopeless a fate. Can the Government of Her Majesty the Queen leave this country a prey to a continual panic, and at the mercy of the simplest accident, of the purest chance ? Can they, above all, allow that work of humanity and civilization to be undone, which they have hitherto, in common with the other guaranteeing Powers, aided and favoured in Servia ?

I should fear to weary you, my Lord, were I to submit to your appreciation all I have to say on this important subject. Besides, the Government of Her Majesty the Queen have been informed of my claims. I will, therefore, confine myself here to submitting my just complaints to your Lordship's favourable consideration, and through you to beg the

Government of Her Majesty not to abandon Servia, which will be in extreme danger without their powerful assistance. The security, the peace, and the happiness of a million of inhabitants are dependent upon the arrangements which the British Government is invited to make, in common with the Sublime Porte and the guaranteeing Powers, in order to preserve Servia and the general peace of the Ottoman Empire from similar catastrophes.

Entreating your Lordship to deign to grant your powerful aid to my country's cause, I beg you, &c.

(Signed)

M. W. OBRENOVITSCH.

No. 24.

Aali Pasha to M. Musurus.—(Communicated to Earl Russell by M. Musurus, July 21.)

(Extrait.)

Constantinople, le 9 Juillet, 1862.

VOUS connaissez la teneur des Actes qui constituent la Principauté de Serbie telle que le Traité de Paris l'a garantie en 1856. Les droits et les devoirs du Suzerain et du Vassal y sont trop explicites pour que nous ayons besoin de faire des commentaires sur leurs dispositions. Il est impossible de trouver un seul argument qui vienne à l'aide des Serbes pour justifier leur récente conduite.

Le séjour des Musulmans et des Serbes ensemble, l'existence forcée d'une police mixte dans le faubourg de Belgrade, ont été les prétextes des tristes événements qui se sont passés dans cette ville. Si nous étions le moins du monde enclins à entrer dans des récriminations, rien ne nous aurait été plus facile que de mettre au grand jour de quelle manière et pourquoi ces événements ont été préparés et accomplis. Mais notre désir est de vouer à l'oubli le passé et de ne nous occuper que du présent et de l'avenir. Ce que nous ne pouvons, cependant, oublier, c'est le droit imprescriptible de notre auguste Souverain. Il nous est impossible d'admettre qu'une poignée d'individus, exaltés par l'amour de rapine et de sang, aient le droit de détruire un état de choses qui est sous la sauvegarde de la garantie collective des plus grandes Puissances de l'univers.

En droit et dès l'origine, le faubourg de Belgrade est exclusivement réservé aux Musulmans. Il est expressément établi par le Hatti-Shérif Impérial de 1833 que les Serviens pourront venir y exercer leur commerce et y avoir des logements. C'est donc une ville Musulmane où les Serbes ont la faculté d'habiter et de faire le commerce. Cela découle non-seulement des droits clairement écrits, mais aussi de la position géographique et stratégique du faubourg et de la citadelle. Le faubourg forme le rayon sans lequel aucune forteresse ne peut exister. Nous pouvons prouver la carte à la main que la dénomination de faubourg n'y est même applicable, car le faubourg c'est la partie d'une ville qui est au-delà de ses portes et de son enceinte. Or, la partie de la ville de Belgrade à laquelle on donne abusivement ce nom n'est en réalité que le rayon entouré de fossés et d'ouvrages. Il est vrai que ces fossés ont été depuis quelque temps comblés en partie, mais les traces en restent et il est très facile de les retrouver.

Malgré toutes ces raisons, et même par un sentiment de bienveillance pour la nation Servienne, la Sublime Porte est disposée à se prêter à la modification du *statu quo ante*, avec la condition expresse de réserver le rayon jugé indispensable à la sécurité de la forteresse par des hommes compétents.

Je vous disais plus haut que nous voulions vouer le passé à l'oubli. Ce désir ne peut, toutefois, nous dispenser de tenir un compte très grand de l'expérience que nous venons de faire. Nous sommes donc en devoir et en droit de chercher à nous garantir et à mettre cette forteresse en sûreté contre toute attaque et toute surprise.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Sultan se plaît à espérer que ses augustes alliés voudront bien apprécier cette nouvelle preuve de modération, et je dirais même d'abnégation, qu'il donne en prenant l'initiative dans une question où son droit est incontestable, et où il aurait pu, fort de ce droit, exiger le rétablissement intégral de ce qui existait avant les derniers événements. Sa conduite, dans ce cas, eût été parfaitement justifiée par les actes de violence auxquels [les Serbes ?] se sont livrés à l'égard des habitants Musulmans et des troupes Impériales.

Nous savons que les Serbes veulent jeter toute la responsabilité sur les nôtres pour arriver au résultat qu'ils ont en vue. La note ci-incluse en copie de M. Garaschanin démontre très clairement quelle est leur arrière-pensée.

Toutes ces accusations contre les autorités de la forteresse, toutes ces prétendues craintes dont la note Serbe contient l'expression, sont imaginées dans le but de surprendre la religion des Cabinets garants, et de les décider à appuyer une prétention en tout point

inadmissible ; c'est-à-dire, l'évacuation de toutes les forteresses situées en Serbie par les troupes Impériales ; c'est-à-dire, l'annulation indirecte du Traité de Paris, et la violation du principe de l'intégrité de cet Empire.

Le bombardement, qui fournit à M. Garaschanin le texte de toutes ces lamentations, a été la conséquence inévitable d'une situation que nous n'avons ni provoquée ni créée. Les forteresses sont faites pour se défendre quand on les attaque, et pour défendre la vie et le bien de ceux qu'elles sont appelées à protéger.

Les capitalistes indigènes et étrangers, qui, au dire de la note en question, n'oseraient plus venir de nouveau se replacer sous la bombe des mêmes canons de la citadelle, connaissent bien que cette même citadelle ne s'est jamais permise de les inquiéter ; et si cette fois-ci elle s'est vue dans la triste nécessité d'agir comme elle a dû le faire, cela n'a pas été l'effet d'un pur caprice des autorités qui y commandaient.

Aussi sommes-nous persuadés que les inquiétudes auxquelles on fait allusion n'existent que dans l'esprit de ceux qui les ont formulées, ou, pour mieux dire, elles n'ont été prononcées que comme un moyen propre à amener le changement désiré. La Sublime Porte est résolue, comme vous le concevrez facilement, à ne pas accepter aucune discussion sur ce point. Si les modifications que nous nous offrons à accorder, et que je vous indique plus haut, ne sont malheureusement pas appréciées à leur juste valeur par les Serbes, s'ils continuent à fouler aux pieds les droits de notre auguste maître et à molester nos troupes et la population Musulmane, nous ne pourrions, dans ces cas là, nous empêcher de prendre telles mesures que notre légitime défense exigerait.

Je vous invite à vous énoncer dans le sens qui précède toutes les fois qu'on vous parlera de cette question.

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

Constantinople, July 9, 1862.

YOU know the tenour of the Acts which constitute the Principality of Servia such as the Treaty of Paris guaranteed it in 1856. The rights and duties of the Suzerain and of the vassal are too explicitly laid down to need commentaries from us on their nature. It is impossible to find a single argument to assist the Servians in justifying their recent conduct.

The dwelling together of Mussulmans and Servians, the obligatory existence of a mixed police in the suburb of Belgrade, were the pretexts for the sad events which occurred in that town. If we were the least in the world inclined to enter upon recriminations, nothing would have been easier for us than to bring to light in what manner and why these events were prepared and accomplished. But our desire is to commit the past to oblivion, and only to occupy ourselves with the present and the future. What, however, we cannot forget is, the imprescriptible right of our august Sovereign. It is impossible for us to admit that a handful of individuals, excited by the love of rapine and blood, have the right to destroy a state of things which is under the safeguard of the collective guarantee of the greatest Powers of the universe.

By right and origin, the suburb of Belgrade is exclusively reserved for Mussulmans. It is expressly established by the Imperial Hatti-Shérif of 1833 that the Servians may come there to exercise their trade and to dwell. It is, therefore, a Mussulman town where the Servians are allowed to live and trade. This results not only from rights clearly laid down in writing, but also from the geographical and strategical position of the suburb and of the citadel. The suburb forms the rayon without which no fortress can exist. We can prove, map in hand, that the denomination of suburb is not even applicable thereto, for the suburb is the part of a town which is outside its gates and its precincts. Now, the part of the town of Belgrade to which this name is wrongly given is in reality nothing but the rayon surrounded by ditches and works. It is true that these ditches were some time since partly filled up, but traces of them remain, and it is very easy to find them.

Notwithstanding all these reasons, and moved by a feeling of kindness for the Servian nation, the Sublime Porte is disposed to agree to the modification of the *status quo ante*, on the express condition of reserving the rayon considered by competent men to be indispensable to the security of the fortress.

I mentioned to you above that we desired to commit the past to oblivion. This desire cannot, however, dispense us from taking well into account the experience which we have just gained. It is, therefore, our duty and our right to try to guarantee ourselves, and to make this fortress secure from all attacks and surprises.

The Government of His Majesty the Sultan rejoice in the hope that their august allies will be pleased to appreciate this new proof of moderation, I would even say of abnegation,

which they are giving by taking the initiative in a question where their right is incontestable, and where they might, strong in this right, exact the integral re-establishment of what existed before the late events. Their conduct in this case would have been perfectly justified by the acts of violence which (the Servians ?) have committed upon the Mussulman inhabitants and the Imperial troops.

We know that the Servians wish to throw the whole responsibility upon our side in order to arrive at the result they have in view. The copy of a note from M. Garaschanin herewith inclosed shows very clearly what their afterthought is.

All these accusations against the authorities of the fortress, all these pretended fears which are expressed in the Servian note, are trumped up with the object of getting to the weak side of the guaranteeing Cabinets, and of deciding them to support a pretension inadmissible on all points ; that is to say, the evacuation by the Imperial troops of all the fortresses situated in Servia ; that is to say, the indirect annulment of the Treaty of Paris, and the violation of the principle of the integrity of this Empire.

The bombardment, which furnishes M. Garaschanin with the text of all these lamentations, was the inevitable consequence of a situation which we neither called forth nor created. Fortresses are made to be defended when attacked, and to defend the lives and the property of those whom they are called upon to protect.

The native and foreign capitalists, who, according to the note in question, would no longer dare to return and place themselves within shot of the same guns of the citadel, know well that this same citadel has never ventured to disturb them ; and if this time it found itself under the sad necessity of acting as it has been obliged to act, that has not been the effect of a pure caprice of the authorities in command.

We are, therefore, persuaded that the uneasiness to which allusion has been made only existed in the minds of those who mentioned it, or, in better words, was only brought forward as a means of effecting the desired change. The Sublime Porte is resolved, as you may easily conceive, not to accept any discussion on this point. If the modifications which we offer to grant, and which I have pointed out to you above, are unfortunately not appreciated at their just value by the Servians, if they continue to trample upon the rights of our august master and to molest our troops and the Mussulman population, we could not in such cases avoid taking such measures as our legitimate defence would require.

I instruct you to express yourself in the preceding sense whenever you are spoken to on this question.

Inclosure in No. 24.

M. Garaschanin to Aali Pasha.

Belgrade, le $\frac{18}{30}$ Juin, 1862.

LA Sublime Porte connaît les incidents regrettables qui dans ce dernier temps ont donné lieu à de fréquents conflits entre les Turcs et les Serbes à Belgrade. Tout en regrettant de ne pas trouver dans le Gouverneur de la citadelle un concours suffisant pour le maintien de la tranquillité publique, le Gouvernement Serbe attendait patiemment l'arrivée d'Aali Bey, Commissaire désigné de la Sublime Porte, lorsque dans la soirée du $\frac{3}{15}$ Juin survinrent des scènes de massacres qui ont frappé de stupeur le Gouvernement ainsi que la population. Le Soussigné, Président du Conseil des Ministres, et Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, s'abstiendra ici d'entrer dans les détails de ce conflit sanglant ; les détails sont en partie connus à la Sublime Porte ainsi qu'aux Consuls des Puissances garantes à Belgrade, à la bienveillante intervention desquelles on est redevable de ce que ce conflit n'ait pas produit de plus grands malheurs ; le Soussigné aura d'ailleurs l'honneur de soumettre sous peu à la Sublime Porte un résumé historique, dans lequel le conflit du $\frac{3}{15}$ sera relaté d'une manière complète.

Mais à peine les scènes du $\frac{3}{15}$ Juin étaient-elles terminées, le Gouvernement Serbe s'était dans la journée du $\frac{4}{16}$ exclusivement consacré à rétablir et assurer l'ordre, que déjà le $\frac{5}{17}$ il a été réservé à cette malheureuse ville d'éprouver combien peu on a dû se fier aux engagements du Pacha, commandant dans la citadelle ; engagements positifs pris à la suite de l'intervention et en présence même de MM. les Consuls. En effet, vers 9 heures du matin de la journée de $\frac{5}{17}$, sans aucun motif, sans aucun avertissement préalable, la ville de Belgrade, sur un ordre du Pacha, fut bombardé, le bombardement continua pendant quatre heures et demie, et la terreur et la désolation dont la population fut frappée se répandit bientôt dans le pays tout entier.

MM. les Consuls des Puissances garantes ont été heureusement eux-mêmes témoins du calme qui régnait déjà dans la ville et de la confiance à laquelle tout le monde se livrait, lorsque cette agression injustifiable, sans exemple dans l'histoire, vient semer l'épouvante dans la population. La Sublime Porte peut envisager les funestes conséquences du coup qui a été porté au commerce, à l'industrie, et au progrès de cette ville, naguère prospère et heureuse. Elle est en état de prononcer si après un pareil désastre on peut encore espérer le retour de la confiance et le rétablissement du crédit et de la sécurité; si l'on peut s'attendre à ce que des personnes obligées déjà une fois de chercher leur salut dans la fuite, après avoir abandonné leurs maisons, leurs biens, tout le fruit de leurs travaux, vinsent de nouveau se replacer sous les bombes de ces mêmes canons de la citadelle, si les capitalistes indigènes et étrangers voudront une seconde fois exposer leur existence et leur fortune à de tels dangers, sachant que la volonté, un caprice même, du Commandant de la citadelle peut mettre la ville à feu et à sang.

C'est avec un sentiment de profonde douleur que le Gouvernement Serbe envisage le sort qui a atteint la ville de Belgrade, dont sont également menacées toutes les autres villes Serbes qui se trouvent dans le même cas, placées sous des canons Turcs, et la situation générale qui en résulte finalement pour la Serbie, exposée à être ainsi frappée et arrêtée dans son existence pacifique et ses tendances civilisatrices, privée des conditions de paix et de sécurité qui sont indispensables au bien-être et à la prospérité de tout pays.

En présence d'une expérience aussi cruelle et des dangers qui se trouvent démontrés d'une manière aussi irrécusable, son Altesse Sérénissime le Prince a l'espoir que la Sublime Porte et les Puissances garantes, qui ont déjà donné à la Serbie tant de preuves de leur haute bienveillance et de leur constant intérêt, ne pourront pas, dans leur sagesse, laisser sans remède un état de choses aussi désespérant, ruineux pour la Serbie, et qui en se prolongeant s'aggrave tous les jours de plus en plus. Profondément reconnaissant pour les mesures auxquelles la Serbie est redevable d'avoir vu le feu destructeur s'arrêter, le Prince remplit un devoir impérieux en faisant un appel particulier à la sagesse et à la bienveillance de la Sublime Porte et des Puissances garantes en faveur d'une solution prompte, et qui soit capable de rendre impossible le retour de pareilles calamités.

Le Soussigné s'acquitte des ordres du Prince en soumettant ce qui précède à la bienveillante appréciation de la Sublime Porte, et en priant son Altesse Aali Pacha d'avoir l'extrême bonté de prêter son concours éclairé en faveur de cette œuvre de paix et d'humanité, et de co-opérer à l'adoption des arrangements devenus indispensables pour ramener le calme et la sécurité, et qui, rendant impossible le retour de pareilles complications, garantiraient au pays les bienfaits de l'ordre et de la paix, et préserveraient ainsi la Serbie de tout trouble et de toute atteinte ultérieurs.

Le Soussigné, &c.

(Signé)

GARASCHANIN.

(Translation.)

Belgrade, June $\frac{18}{30}$, 1862.

THE Sublime Porte is aware of the sad incidents which have lately given rise to frequent conflicts between the Turks and the Servians at Belgrade. Whilst regretting not to meet with sufficient aid from the Governor of the citadel for the maintenance of public tranquillity, the Servian Government were waiting patiently for the arrival of Aali Bey, a Commissary chosen by the Sublime Porte, when, in the evening of the $\frac{30}{th}$ June, scenes of massacre were enacted which have stunned the Government, as well as the population. The Undersigned, President of the Council of Ministers, and Minister for Foreign Affairs, will abstain now from entering into the details of this sanguinary conflict; the details are partly known to the Sublime Porte, as well as to the Consuls of the guaranteeing Powers at Belgrade, to whose kind intervention it is owing that this conflict has not produced greater misfortunes. The Undersigned will, besides, have the honour shortly to submit to the Sublime Porte an historical statement, in which the conflict of the $\frac{30}{th}$ will be related in all its particulars.

But hardly were the scenes of the $\frac{30}{th}$ June terminated, and after the Servian Government had devoted the $\frac{4}{16}$ th exclusively to the firm re-establishment of order, when, actually on the $\frac{5}{17}$ th, it was reserved for this unfortunate town to feel how little reliance ought to have been placed on the engagements of the Pasha who had the command in the citadel,—positive engagements made in consequence of the intervention and in the very presence of the Consuls. In fact, towards 9 o'clock on the morning of the $\frac{5}{17}$ th, without any motive, without any previous warning, the town of Belgrade was bombarded by order of the Pasha; the bombardment continued during four hours and a-half, and the terror and desolation which fell upon the population soon spread over the whole country.

The Consuls of the guaranteeing Powers were, fortunately, themselves witnesses of the calm which already prevailed in the town, and of the confidence with which every one was imbued when this unjustifiable aggression, without example in history, came to spread a panic through the population. The Sublime Porte can contemplate the fatal consequences of the blow which has been dealt upon the trade, industry, and progress of this town lately so prosperous and happy. It is able to state whether, after such a disaster, the return of confidence, and the re-establishment of credit and security, can still be hoped for; whether one can expect that persons who have already been once obliged to seek their safety in flight, after having abandoned their houses, their goods, all the fruit of their labours, will come and settle themselves once more within shot of those same guns of the citadel; whether native and foreign capitalists will expose their existence and their fortunes a second time to such dangers, knowing that the will, or even a caprice, of the Commandant of the citadel, can put the town to fire and sword.

It is with a feeling of profound grief that the Servian Government contemplates the fate which has befallen the town of Belgrade, and which menaces all the other Servian towns which are in the same position of being placed under Turkish guns, and the general position which results for Servia, liable to have its pacific existence and its civilizing tendencies injured and arrested in this manner, and to be deprived of the conditions of peace and security which are indispensable to the welfare and the prosperity of every country.

In presence of such cruel experience, and of the dangers which have been proved in so irrefragable a manner, His Most Serene Highness the Prince hopes that the Sublime Porte and the guaranteeing Powers, who have already given to Servia so many proofs of their exalted kindness and of their constant interest, will not be able, in their wisdom, to leave unremedied a state of things so forlorn and ruinous for Servia, and which, by its prolongation, becomes daily more and more aggravated. Profoundly grateful for the measures to which Servia owes the arrest of the destroying fire, the Prince performs an imperious duty by making a particular appeal to the wisdom and goodness of the Sublime Porte and of the guaranteeing Powers, in favour of a prompt solution, calculated to render the return of similar calamities impossible.

The Undersigned executes the orders of the Prince by submitting the above to the favourable consideration of the Sublime Porte, and by requesting his Highness Aali Pasha to have the goodness to lend his enlightened aid in favour of this work of peace and humanity, and to co-operate in the adoption of the arrangements which have become indispensable for restoring calm and security, and which, by rendering the return of similar complications impossible, would guarantee to the country the benefits of order and peace, and would thus preserve Servia from all further trouble and injury.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

GARASCHANIN.

No. 25.

Earl Russell to Prince Michael Obrenovitsch.

Prince,

Foreign Office, July 23, 1862.

THE Government of Her Majesty the Queen have heard with great concern of the events which have taken place at Belgrade.

It appears that an attack was made by the Servians on the gates of the town, occupied by the Turks in virtue of ancient usage and recent Treaties, especially the Treaty of Paris of 1856.

Two of these gates having been carried by assault, the Consuls persuaded the Turks to evacuate the remaining two, in all four gates. But no sooner had the Turkish residents left their houses than those houses were plundered by a disorderly mob.

For this pillage and disorder no redress was offered by the Servian authorities; and the next morning muskets were fired at the garrison in the citadel.

Upon this occurrence the Pasha took the alarm, and unadvisedly, and, as it appears to Her Majesty's Government, unjustifiably, bombarded the town at intervals for four hours.

It is no wonder that peaceable inhabitants were seized with panic and left the town.

But so far as Her Majesty's Government are informed, these lamentable events had their origin in the violation by the Servians of the relations established by Treaties between the Sublime Porte and Servia.

Your Highness assumes merit for not having joined in the insurrection of the Herzegovina. Your Highness deserves the credit of having, in that respect, shown regard to the obligations of good faith.

If your Highness will, in the same spirit, conform to the duties imposed upon you by European Treaties, Her Majesty's Government will most willingly use their influence with the Sublime Porte for the improvement of the condition of a million of Servians, in whose welfare Her Majesty the Queen takes a deep interest.

But so long as ill-intentioned persons are allowed to draw your Highness into measures of defiance and of violence, in open violation and contempt of solemn Treaties, it is impossible that Her Majesty's Government can ask the Sultan to give to his enemies means for assailing the security of his Empire.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 26.

Earl Russell to Consul-General Longworth.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 23, 1862.

I TRANSMIT to you under flying seal, for your information, the answer* which I have addressed to Prince Michael Obrenovitsch's letter inclosed in your despatch No. 37 of the 12th instant, and I have to instruct you to forward the same to His Highness.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 27.

Sir H. Bulwer to Earl Russell.—(Received July 25.)

(Extract.)

Constantinople, July 15, 1862.

THE state of things in Servia is still the same, but, by being the same, is taking each day a graver character, involving the probability of further complications.

The Servian population is, I understand, animated and excited by the hope of obtaining the expulsion of the Turks from the small forts on the Danube, and also the possession of the citadel of Belgrade.

I hear that a large population from the country is, for these purposes, assembled in and about the town; that the Servians prevent the people in the fortress from getting vegetables from Semlin; and that, lately, the Servian Government protested against the presence, in what it calls Servian waters, of a small steam-yacht, unarmed (for I happen to know it), and which was simply carrying provisions to the garrison in the fortress.

A despatch from Mr. Longworth (dated the 3rd of July), to which I call your Lordship's attention, very ably describes the course and causes of late events; and I think your Lordship will find by this despatch, now that events come to be known and are calmly judged, that I took a pretty accurate view of them from the beginning.

The most dangerous feature in the whole case strikes me to be the wilfully-partial statements, or mis-statements, of M. Garaschanin. It is impossible to read a paper inclosed in the despatch from Mr. Longworth to which I have just been alluding, without being struck by this, for not only did not events pass as M. Garaschanin describes them to have done, but they could not have so occurred; for it is contrary to all human experience that one party, under circumstances such as I am speaking of, should have been always the aggressive one, particularly when it was the weakest, and when the other party, according to all M. Garaschanin's previous statements, was in the highest state of excitement.

It is evident from this document that all hopes of arriving at any fair settlement, based on the existing and guaranteed state of the Ottoman Empire, which can satisfy the Servian authorities, are vain; and it is consequently clear that, the sooner the ambitious schemes of those authorities are put on one side by some declaration as to the limits that must be given to them, the better.

What the Turkish Government now complains of is, that every day that passes is creating some fresh demand on the part of the vassal Principality, and some fresh sign

of its intention to obtain by force what it cannot claim by Treaty; whilst the Porte is held back from making any counter-effort, which would be stigmatized as threatening the liberties, and likely to arouse with justice the passions, of the Servian people.

I had, indeed, a long and intimate conversation with Aali and Fuad Pashas the other night on this subject, which conversation ended by an instruction sent by telegram to their Representatives, asking the Powers to guarantee the *status quo* until the result of the prospective Conferences should decide on future arrangements.

The Porte also in this telegram raises a question as to the possibility of dealing at once and directly with the pending difficulties without Conferences, and by direct proposals of its own to the different Powers, proposals which it thinks they might all agree to, because they would contain everything the Porte could give up consistently with its honour and safety, and with everything any Power could, consistently with its own European engagements, ask it to resign.

Its motives in asking for this solution, is the idea that some Powers will intentionally defer Conferences, and that others will disagree about them.

I have no doubt these difficulties would eventually be got over, but I share the idea of Aali Pasha and Fuad Pasha, that they may create delays, and delays fresh troubles.

At all events, I think your Lordship would like to know what the Porte, to have the Servian dilemma quickly removed, would at once assent to.

I think this may be somewhat prematurely stated as follows:—

1st. That the part of Belgrade which is wholly inhabited by Turks should be destroyed and form an open space before the fortress.

2nd. That a small part of the suburb towards the Save which is inhabited by the Servians, as small a part as possible to allow of the safety of the fortress, should likewise be demolished.

3rd. That all the Turks should be withdrawn from the inhabited part of the town and suburb, and the gates within it given up to the Servians.

4th. That the Turks should indemnify their own people whose property was destroyed, that they should indemnify the Servians also for any of the property belonging to Servians that was destroyed, and that the Servians should indemnify the Turks for the property which they would have to resign to Servia.

Proper military authorities should determine the line of defence which the citadel should possess, and the new works that might be necessary to render it secure.

In this manner all that the Servians previously contended for would be given up, with one sole condition, that the security of the citadel should not be injured.

In regard to the minor fortresses, what Aali Pasha says is this:—

“We do not lay so much value on these for themselves; but the position in which we stand to our own countrymen and Sovereign is to be considered.

“It so happens that Belgrade, belonging to a frontier province, is filled by historical recollections. The tombs of many of our Saints and heroes are there; these we have now to surrender! Mosques have to be destroyed.

“Well, we may plead the necessity of arranging a pressing question; we may show that we have at once taken away the cause for future disturbance, and rendered our frontier citadel more safe. But the minor fortresses: what reason is there for giving them up? The loud tone and insolent bearing of the Servians? Can we plead this as our argument? If they were a different demeanour, concessions then might be made easy; but concessions now are the concessions simply of weakness to force. But we do not feel this relative weakness; we are quite sure that if compelled to acts of hostility we could reduce Servia to our sway without danger or difficulty, unless Europe unjustly took part with those who having violated their engagements with Europe have no claim upon its assistance.”

There is some truth in Aali Pasha's reasoning; but, on the other hand, I think if absolutely essential for a prompt agreement the Porte might be got over at least in a certain degree, and that it would abandon some of the small fortresses, adding (by way of excuse to itself) to the defences of others.

But it will be very necessary to determine that the Danube is open to all who have possessions on it, and that its waters when they touch on Turkish possessions are not purely Servian waters, but that the Turks have at all times free approach to and egress from their fortress at Belgrade, or any other fortress belonging to them on the said river.

Consul-General Longworth to Earl Russell.—(Received July 30.)

My Lord,

Belgrade, July 24, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith inclosed, to your Lordship the copy of a despatch, dated Belgrade July 21, 1862, addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, relative to a conference in which the Turkish Commissioner, Ahmed Effendi, stated to the Consular Body his opinion as to the intentions of the Servian Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. A. LONGWORTH.

Inclosure 1 in No. 28.

Consul-General Longworth to Sir H. Bulwer.

(Extract.)

Belgrade, July 21, 1862.

THE Imperial Commissioner, Ahmed Vefyk Effendi, had yesterday, by appointment, a conference with the Consular body at the British Consulate.

He laid before them certain facts and circumstances from which he concluded that the intentions of the Servian Government were anything but pacific, that their demonstrations were gradually assuming a character of provocation and menace incompatible, not only with the respect due to the fortress, but its safety even; and that if they did not desist from them, means of repression would have to be adopted by the Governor. The Government, he said, instead of seeking to revive a feeling of confidence, and induce the fugitive population of Belgrade to return to their homes, seemed by every means in their power determined to frighten away the few that remained. Many of the Jewish inhabitants who had taken refuge at Semlin had petitioned the Government to be allowed to return, but permission had been refused to them. In the meanwhile the number of the troops, regular and irregular, in the town had been gradually reinforced; the barricades which he had expected would be removed had, on the contrary, been strengthened and multiplied; soldiers had been introduced into the houses fronting the glacis, and sentinels advanced almost to the gates of the fortress, which, in its present beleaguered position, presented a state of things untenable both in a military and in a political point of view—calculated, in short, to create alarm and not confidence in the minds of all parties.

Scarcely a day passes that some new arrangement or Proclamation of the Government does not cause additional alarm and sense of insecurity; a few days ago the public crier gave notice of a regulation whereby all the houses in the town were to be provided with an extraordinary supply of water. The effect of this order, which was construed into a precaution against another bombardment, was to clear the town, in a few hours, of its few remaining inhabitants. It is, indeed, impossible to resist the conviction that the total desertion of Belgrade has been brought about by the influence of the Government, exerted through its functionaries of all ranks on the people. It was natural, of course, that the merchants, shopkeepers, and others should consult these officials as to the danger they incurred by remaining in the town, and the expediency of withdrawing with their property. The advice given to them I have reason to know was uniformly of a nature to induce them to retire. The functionaries themselves, however, were forbidden under severe penalties to leave their posts, though they were allowed to send away their families. In the same manner alarm and irritation are kept up between the chain of posts and barricades which may be described as the Servian lines, and the precincts of the fortress. I have been informed by the Commissioner that the Servian outposts and sentinels have been gradually advanced till in some places they are now almost under the walls, where they come and grossly insult by indecent gestures the Turkish soldiers on duty. On the other hand, M. Mondaine, the Servian Minister of War, reports that almost every night some soldiers of the Nizam, sometimes five, sometimes ten in number, come out of the fortress and approach the Servian lines. These statements, which appear to me incredible, or inexplicable at least, have furnished serious grounds of complaint to the Servian Government; and as my French and Russian colleagues profess to believe them, and even assign them as reasons for want of confidence in the Turkish authorities, and as a justification for the attitude assumed by the Prince, I thought it might be desirable to take some decided steps in order, if possible, to verify these reports. Hearing, therefore, that my Italian colleague was last night about to visit the outposts for

the purpose of watching these proceedings of the Turks, I offered to accompany him ; but though keeping watch there the greater part of the night, we observed nothing of a nature to confirm these reports.

A Bulgarian legion, consisting of 700 men, and designed to favour an insurrectionary movement in the Pashalics of Nisch and Widdin, has been raised at Kragugowatz. Another legion, called that of Prisrend, the capital of ancient Servia, and now the chief town of Northern Albania, is also being incorporated at Belgrade.

A great quantity of saltpetre has been imported into Servia, and several thousand rifles are being smuggled from Wallachia: 4,000 are also about to be introduced into Bulgaria.

The Commissioner has likewise been informed that a contract for 1,000 horses has been made through the medium of a certain M. Yankovitch, at 22 ducats per head: they are intended for the transport of Artillery from Kragugowatz.

Inclosure 2 in No. 28.

Ahmed Effendi to M. Garaschanin.

Belgrade, le 19 Juillet, 1862.

LE Soussigné, Commissaire Extraordinaire et Plénipotentiaire, s'est efforcé dès son arrivée à Belgrade d'obtenir le rétablissement d'un état de choses satisfaisant, en faisant connaître la résolution du Gouvernement Impérial de se guider sur une enquête sévère et minutieuse pour poursuivre l'adoption des mesures propres à assurer la tranquillité et l'ordre public en oubliant les torts des Serbes pour le passé.

Le Soussigné s'est attaché à convaincre M. Garaschanin que le renouvellement du bombardement étant impossible à cause des ordres supérieures et par la démonstration que le Gouvernement Impérial a faite avant même que l'enquête fût commencée, et que la forteresse se bornant à la stricte défensive contre les éventualités, le meilleur moyen de calmer l'inquiétude publique et de prévenir quelque attentat serait de cesser les travaux militaires pour rappeler la population et lui donner le moyen de se rendre compte de l'état paisible de la forteresse, où, comme M. Garaschanin le voit journellement, les travaux réglementaires ordonnés même en temps ordinaire pour occuper le soldat ont été abandonnés.

Le Soussigné se croit obligé de revenir sur ce sujet, qui intéresse le repos du public, et de demander de M. Garaschanin l'adoption de quelques mesures pratiques qui puissent empêcher la population paisible de supposer aux autorités Serbes des intentions et des préparatifs d'hostilité, offrant de son côté de prendre en considération comme par le passé les suggestions qui lui seraient faites pour l'adoption de pareilles mesures. Dans ce but il est d'abord indispensable d'enlever l'épouvantail des barricades, de rappeler les employés et leurs familles dans la ville, et d'empêcher la ruine totale du commerce en rassurant par leur exemple toute la population, qui continue à quitter la ville depuis après le rétablissement de la tranquillité, et n'en a pas été dissuadée par les autorités.

Le Soussigné a lieu de croire que le Corps Consulaire, qui a déjà tant fait pour le retour de la tranquillité et qui donne l'exemple de la confiance, est dans le même sentiment que lui, sur la nécessité de rassurer l'esprit par des mesures qui expliquent à la population intelligente les intentions futures des autorités Serbes.

La solution définitive de la question dépend des Conférences dont les hautes décisions ne pourront être influencées par aucune démarche locale à Belgrade ; mais, la responsabilité de la ruine qui menace toute la classe des négociants par suite du maintien de cet état de choses, retombera sur ceux qui l'auront inutilement prolongé.

En attendant la réponse, &c.

(Translation.)

Belgrade, July 19, 1862.

THE Undersigned, Commissary Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, has been attempting ever since his arrival at Belgrade to obtain the re-establishment of a satisfactory state of things, by proclaiming the resolution of the Imperial Government to proceed to a strict and minute inquiry in order to adopt measures calculated to secure public tranquillity and order by forgetting the past faults of the Servians.

The Undersigned has laboured to convince M. Garaschanin that the renewal of the bombardment being impossible in consequence of superior orders and owing to the demonstration made by the Imperial Government, even before the inquiry was commenced, and that the fortress being limited strictly to the defensive, whatever may happen, the best

means for calming the public anxiety and to prevent any outbreak would be to give over the military works, in order to call back the population and give them the means of assuring themselves of the peaceable state of the fortress, where, as M. Garaschanin sees daily, the regulation works ordered even in ordinary times, to occupy the soldiers, have been abandoned.

The Undersigned considers himself obliged to return to this interesting subject to the public repose, and to request M. Garaschanin to adopt certain practical measures which may prevent the peaceable population from supposing that the Servian authorities have any hostile intentions or are making any hostile preparations; offering on his side to take into consideration, as in former times, the suggestions which may be made to him for the adoption of similar measures. With this object it is, in the first place, indispensable to remove the scarecrow of barricades, to recall the officials and their families into the town, and to prevent the total ruin of trade by reassuring, through their example, the whole population, which has continued to quit the town since the re-establishment of tranquillity and has not been dissuaded from so doing by the authorities.

The Undersigned has reason to believe that the Consular body, which has already done so much for the restoration of tranquillity, and which gives the example of its confidence, shares with him the feeling that it is necessary to reassure men's minds by measures which will explain to the intelligent population the future intentions of the Servian authorities.

The definite solution of the question depends upon Conferences, the exalted decisions of which cannot be influenced by any local step at Belgrade; but the responsibility of the ruin which threatens the whole class of merchants, in consequence of the maintenance of this state of things, will fall upon those who will have uselessly prolonged it.

Awaiting your reply, &c.

No. 29.

Sir H. Bulwer to Earl Russell.—(Received August 1.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, July 22, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship, herewith, a copy of a note I addressed to the Porte on the 6th instant, suggesting that it should summon a meeting of the Representatives of the guaranteeing Powers to confer upon the present state of Servia, and likewise a copy of the answer returned by the Porte to that note.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 29.

Sir H. Bulwer to Aali Pasha.

Altesse,

Constantinople, le 6 Juillet, 1862.

JE n'ai pas besoin d'informer votre Altesse que mon Gouvernement a reçu les nouvelles des derniers événements à Belgrade avec un grand regret qui laissera subsister de l'inquiétude jusqu'à ce que les bonnes relations entre la Porte et la Servie soient rétablies.

Je ne suis pas à même de savoir quelles sont les informations que votre Altesse aurait reçues du Commissaire Ottoman, ni de juger par là dans quel état sont les négociations qui ont dû avoir eu lieu entre lui et le Ministre Serbe; mais je dois prévenir votre Altesse que mon Gouvernement est d'avis que la manière la plus sûre et la plus convenable d'établir un accord entre la Puissance Suzeraine et le Prince de Serbie sera trouvée dans des Conférences à Constantinople entre les Représentants des Puissances garantes et un Représentant de la Sublime Porte.

Je serai heureux de savoir que telle aussi est l'opinion de votre Altesse, et dans ce cas j'aurai l'honneur de vous inviter, vu que dans les circonstances actuelles tout délai qui n'est pas nécessaire est préjudiciable, à fixer une époque prochaine pour les Conférences en question, auxquelles je ne doute pas que votre Altesse portera les renseignements dont votre Commissaire sera alors à même de vous munir.

Agréé, &c.

(Signé) HENRY L. BULWER.

H

(Translation.)

Highness,

Constantinople, July 6, 1862.

I HAVE no need to inform your Highness that my Government has received the news of the late events at Belgrade with great regret, and their anxiety will be kept up until the good relations between the Porte and Servia are re-established.

I am not in a position to know what information your Highness has received from the Ottoman Commissary, nor to judge thereby in what state the negotiations are which must have taken place between him and the Servian Minister; but I must inform your Highness that my Government are of opinion that the surest and most suitable manner of settling matters between the Suzerain Power and the Prince of Servia will be found in Conferences at Constantinople between the Representatives of the guaranteeing Powers and a Representative of the Sublime Porte.

I shall be happy to know that such is also the opinion of your Highness, and in this case I shall have to request you, inasmuch as in the present state of things all delay which is not necessary is prejudicial, to fix an early period for the Conferences in question, when I doubt not that your Highness will produce the information with which your Commissary will then be enabled to furnish you.

Accept, &c.

(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 29.

Aali Pasha to Sir H. Bulwer.

Sublime Porte, le 20 Juillet, 1862.

LE Soussigné, Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de Sa Majesté le Sultan, a eu l'honneur de recevoir la note que son Excellence l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Britannique lui a adressée en date du 6 Juillet dans le but de signaler à la Sublime Porte l'opportunité de réunir MM. les Représentants des Puissances signataires du Traité de Paris de 1856, pour rechercher d'un commun accord les moyens propres à empêcher le renouvellement des événements si regrettables dont la ville de Belgrade vient d'être le théâtre.

Le Soussigné, après avoir pris les ordres de son auguste Maître, s'empresse d'annoncer que la Sublime Porte n'hésite pas à accepter la proposition susmentionnée avec cette confiance illimitée qu'elle aime à mettre dans la justice de ses augustes alliés, et dans leur désir de faire respecter les droits légitimes et les obligations consacrées par les Traités.

Son Altesse le Grand Vézir et le Soussigné ont, en conséquence, l'autorisation de Sa Majesté Impériale de se réunir avec M. l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Britannique et ses collègues des autres Puissances garantes afin d'arrêter avec eux, après avoir murement considéré le résultat de l'enquête qui vient d'être faite, les bases d'une résolution conforme aux principes d'équité et de droit.

Le Soussigné est chargé d'ajouter aussi que vu la continuation et même la recrudescence depuis quelque temps des excitations et des manœuvres révolutionnaires des fauteurs des derniers troubles en Servie, vu les indices de plus en plus hostiles qui ne cessent de s'y manifester et devant des préparatifs continuels qui dénotent des intentions diamétralement opposées aux assurances données et si souvent répétées, la Sublime Porte se considère en droit, et en devoir, de déclarer que toute négociation ou tout arrangement sous de telles conditions lui paraît non-seulement attentatoire à la dignité de la Cour Suzeraine et des Puissances garantes, mais aussi contraire à l'esprit du grand Acte international qui a pris sous sa garantie les institutions de la Serbie. Le Gouvernement Impérial pense donc qu'il serait urgent de faire cesser avant tout cet état de choses. Toutefois, la plus directement intéressée dans la question, et ayant à protéger ses droits, la vie et les biens des milliers d'êtres humains, la Sublime Porte se voit dans l'obligation de dire franchement et dès à présent aux Hauts Cabinets garants, que, si malgré son ardent désir d'arranger cette importante affaire d'une manière pacifique, si malgré tous les efforts qu'elle consacre, et consacrer, jusqu'au bout pour empêcher toute sorte de collisions, les fauteurs dont le Soussigné a parlé plus haut s'avaient d'attaquer les forteresses situées en Servie ou d'attenter à la vie, aux biens des Musulmans qui y sont établis, ou enfin de violer et de troubler les frontières, il lui serait impossible de regarder d'un œil indifférent de pareils actes. Laissant dans ce cas toute responsabilité à ceux qui auraient violés les engagements

qui découlent de la position réciproque, la Sublime Porte ne saurait s'empêcher de recourir à tous les moyens nécessaires pour venir au secours des dites forteresses, et pour délivrer tant de malheureux des mains de leurs agresseurs.

Le Soussigné se flatte de l'espoir que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique voudra bien prendre acte de cette déclaration, et rendre justice de l'esprit de loyauté et de modération qui régle la conduite de la Sublime Porte.

Le Soussigné, &c.

(Signé)

AALI.

(Translation.)

Sublime Porte, July 20, 1862.

THE Undersigned, Minister for Foreign Affairs of His Majesty the Sultan, has had the honour to receive the note which his Excellency the Ambassador of Her Britannic Majesty addressed to him on the 6th of July, with the object of stating to the Sublime Porte the expediency of calling together the Representatives of the Powers who signed the Treaty of Paris of 1856, in order to investigate in concert the means calculated to prevent the renewal of the very sad events of which the town of Belgrade has just been the theatre.

The Undersigned, after having taken the orders of his august Master, hastens to announce that the Sublime Porte does not hesitate to accept the above-mentioned proposition with that unlimited confidence which it rejoices to place in the justice of its august allies, and in their desire to have respect shown to legitimate rights and to obligations consecrated by Treaties.

His Highness the Grand Vizier and the Undersigned have, consequently, the authorization of His Imperial Majesty to meet the Ambassador of Her Britannic Majesty and his colleagues of the other guaranteeing Powers, in order, after having maturely considered the result of the inquiry which has just been made, to settle the bases of a resolution conformable to the principles of equity and law.

The Undersigned is also instructed to add that, considering the continuance, and even recrudescence of late, of the provocations and revolutionary manœuvres of the partizans of the late troubles in Servia, considering the more and more hostile indications which do not cease to manifest themselves, and in the face of the continued preparations which denote intentions diametrically opposed to the assurances given and so often repeated, the Sublime Porte considers it to be its right and its duty to declare that every negotiation or every arrangement under such conditions appears to it not only injurious to the dignity of the Suzerain Court and of the guaranteeing Powers, but also contrary to the great international Act which took under its guarantee the institutions of Servia. The Imperial Government thinks, therefore, that it is above all important to put an end to this state of things. In any case, being most directly interested in the question, and having to protect its rights, and the life and property of thousands of human beings, the Sublime Porte finds itself obliged to say frankly and at once to the High guaranteeing Cabinets, that if, notwithstanding its ardent desire to settle this important affair in a peaceable manner, if notwithstanding all the efforts which it devotes, and will devote, to the end, in order to prevent any kind of collision, the partizans of whom the Undersigned has spoken above should think fit to attack the fortresses situated in Servia, or to injure the life or property of the Mussulmans who are established there, or, finally, to violate and disturb the frontiers, it will be impossible for it to look with an indifferent eye upon such acts. Leaving all the responsibility in this case to those who will have violated the engagements which result from their reciprocal position, the Sublime Porte cannot be prevented from having recourse to all the means necessary for succouring the said fortresses, and for delivering so many unfortunate people from the hands of their oppressors.

The Undersigned indulges in the hope that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty will have the goodness to take note of this declaration, and render justice to the spirit of loyalty and moderation which rules the conduct of the Sublime Porte.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

AALI.

Sir H. Bulwer to Earl Russell.—(Received August 1.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, July 23, 1862.

THE first meeting of the Conferences took place yesterday. It was attended by the Representatives of all the guaranteeing Powers.

I do not know whether there will be time to send an official detailed account of what took place by this messenger; but I may say, in a few words, that Baron Prokesch entered a protest against the King of Italy being considered as other than the King of Sardinia with respect to Servian affairs; that all the Representatives, at my suggestion, sent a joint telegram to the Consuls at Belgrade, announcing to them the opening of the Conferences, and instructing them to impress upon the mind of the Servian Government the necessity of preserving its authority, and maintaining the public tranquillity.

Aali Pasha then agreed to produce at our next meeting, which I urged should be as soon as possible, Achmed Vefyk's Report, and the Porte's own plans of arrangement.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

Inclosure in No. 30.

The Representatives at Constantinople to the Consuls at Belgrade.

(Télégraphique.)

Constantinople, le 22 Juillet, 1862.

LES Conférences sur l'état de la Servie vis-à-vis de la Sublime Porte ont commencé aujourd'hui. Comme il est de toute importance que, pendant la durée des Conférences il n'arrive rien qui puisse interrompre la marche régulière de ses délibérations vous êtes chargé, au nom de tous les Représentants des Puissances garantes, de témoigner au Gouvernement du Prince Michel la confiance qu'il ne fera aucun acte de nature à modifier la situation présente et qu'il saura conserver sur la population de la Servie toute l'autorité nécessaire pour empêcher toute entreprise contre les droits ou les possessions de l'Empire Ottoman. comme les Représentants de leur part ont reçu toutes les assurances les plus positives de la part du Gouvernement Ottoman qu'il ne fera rien qui puisse menacer la Servie ou mettre en danger soit la vie, soit les propriétés des sujets Serbes.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.)

Constantinople, July 22, 1862.

THE Conferences on the state of Servia with respect to the Sublime Porte began to-day. As it is most important that during the Conferences nothing should happen to interrupt the regular progress of its deliberations, you are instructed, in the name of the Representatives of the guaranteeing Powers, to testify to the Government of Prince Michael their confidence that it will do no act calculated to modify the present situation and that it will be able to preserve over the population of Servia such authority as is necessary for preventing any invasion of the rights or possessions of the Ottoman Empire, as the Representatives, on their side, have received the most positive assurances on the part of the Ottoman Government that it will do nothing which might threaten Servia or endanger either the life or the property of Servian subjects.

No. 31.

Earl Russell to Sir H. Bulwer.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 2, 1862.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 22nd ultimo, and I have to inform your Excellency, in reply, that Her Majesty's Government approve the note which you addressed to Aali Pasha on the 9th ultimo, advising the Porte to summon a Conference of the Representatives of the Powers parties to the Treaty of Paris, to consider the present state of affairs in Servia.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

Consul-General Longworth to Earl Russell.—(Received August 4.)

(Extract.)

Belgrade, July 28, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith inclosed, to your Lordship, the copy of a despatch dated July 25, addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, relative to the late disturbances at Belgrade.

Inclosure in No. 32.

Consul-General Longworth to Sir H. Bulwer.

(Extract.)

Belgrade, July 25, 1862.

THE depositions, to the number of twenty-four, classed under No. 1, and intended to prove that the conflict of the 15th of June was premeditated, are of the most vague and unsatisfactory description. It should be borne in mind that this outbreak had been preceded by disturbances, such as two which had occurred at the Stamboul Gate, and the murder on the banks of the Save, in all of which the Servians were aggressors, and that these must necessarily have produced excitement, terror, and suspicion in the minds of the Turkish population. It was rumoured among them that an attack and massacre on the part of the Servians would take place on the 15th, the day appointed for the celebration of the Sultan's festival. These fears, as may be seen from the deposition marked I 9, were heightened by the sudden departure of the Prince from Belgrade, to which I at the time drew your Excellency's attention.

It is by no means extraordinary that the Turks should have made some preparations of defence; it would rather have been a matter of astonishment if they had not. We are surprised, indeed, when we find from this evidence itself that they took so few precautions, which is in keeping, however, with their characteristic apathy. Provoked beyond endurance, and threatened with extermination, when they at length appear to be on their guard and providing for their safety, they are accused of conspiring against the Servians, with whom, as I have been credibly informed, it had long been a boast they would compel the Turks to attack them.

The five depositions marked No. 4 relate to the affair of the Jewish schoolmaster. It is difficult to understand what it could have to do with the subsequent conflict, unless it be introduced to prove the turbulent disposition of the Turks.

It is very remarkable, that from none of these depositions the cause and origin of this disturbance, in itself insignificant, can be at all collected. The simple fact was, that, besides being a schoolmaster, the Jew in question was a baker of the peculiar bread consumed at certain periods of the year by his community, and that the chimney of his oven, being considered dangerous by his Turkish neighbours, they endeavoured to eject him from the premises. By this hearsay evidence it is sought to implicate the Pasha, who is said to have given permission to the Turks (the neighbours, be it remembered, of the Jew) to burn his house down. This seems to be no better than a stupid calumny, such as the Christians are too frequently in the habit of bringing against the Turkish authorities. As to the Turks of Belgrade being a turbulent population, the charge I never before heard advanced during a residence of two and a-half years at Belgrade. On the contrary, I have always understood that, being but a comparative handful amidst the Servian population, they were remarkable for their quiet and inoffensive conduct to everybody. M. Garaschanin has stated to me that, for twenty years previously to the restoration of the dominant Family, there were only two riots, and one Servian killed, in the town. Finally, if the Turks were people of such violent and disorderly character, why, it may be asked, have the Jews always preferred taking up their abode in their quarter of the town? The twenty depositions of No. 3, relative to the alleged murder at Tchoukum Tchesmah, have been framed, I believe, for the express purpose of misleading the minds of those who may have to investigate the affair of the 15th instant as to its real scope and origin.

Sava Petrovich was first mentioned in the Servian reports as a child, but afterwards admitted to have been an adult of more than 20 years of age; while he is never distinctly identified, notwithstanding the depositions from a water-carrier who was mixed up in the same disturbance.

What appears certain is, that either one or the other of these men had a quarrel with some Turkish soldiers at the fountain in question, and came to blows with them, using for a weapon the piece of wood made for carrying his pails; this was at length wrested from him by one of the soldiers, who struck him severely on the head with it. From the contusions thus received, and, perhaps, as was also reported, from wounds subsequently

inflicted, he died, and his body was taken to the hospital. But however this may have been, the fate of this man, though involved in the conflict of the 15th of July, was not the cause of it. It was caused, as I have already stated to your Excellency, by the attempt of the gendarmes to conduct by force, and contrary to law and prescription, Turkish soldiers to the Servian police. The witnesses in the depositions are made to affirm they were taking them to the Turkish Voivode, or Superintendent of the Turkish police. But I am persuaded this evidence is false.

The two police stations, Turkish and Servian, are situated next to each other in the public square, divided only by the narrow street through which the soldiers were conducted by the gendarmes.

It was only on arriving there, and when M. Simeon Nicholsitch, the Servian dragoman in command of the gendarmes, refusing to deliver the Turks to their own authorities, ordered his men to take them to the Servian station, that the conflict began. In fact, this is the only ground which can, with any degree of probability, be assigned for it. It is confirmed by the unanimous testimony of the Turks, and that of the Italian Consul's servant, contained in the deposition accompanying my despatch to your Excellency under date of the 15th instant, serves also to corroborate it. But the most conclusive proof in the opinion of any fair and impartial judge, who I am sorry to say is scarcely to be looked for at Belgrade, is presented by the document which forms No. 1 of my despatch under date of the 3rd July, to your Excellency. This is M. Garaschanin's letter dated the 25th Zilhidje to the Governor of Belgrade, wherein he declares that Turkish offenders would in future be handed over by the police to Servian Tribunals.

It is perfectly true that M. Garaschanin, when I remonstrated with him afterwards, declared to me that this decision would not be carried into effect, but he, at the same time, refused to cancel it.

Taking all the circumstances of the case into consideration—how such of the Turks, both military and civilian, who could not immediately escape to the fortress shut themselves up from the commencement of the fray in their houses and stations, and stood on the defensive; how, on the other hand, they were simultaneously attacked by the Servian gendarmes and rabble, in proof of which I may mention that their Chiefs have since engaged in newspaper polemics disputing their respective shares of merit in assailing the Turkish guard-houses; combining these, in short, with the fact, still more remarkable, that while all the Turkish houses, 600 in number, were plundered of everything they contained, not a single Servian house, as may be inferred from these depositions, was pillaged; I cannot conceive on what grounds, unless of the flimsiest kind, it can be maintained that the Turks were the aggressors and the assault premeditated on their part.

The seven depositions, numbered IV, have reference to the posture of affairs on the 16th June, the day before that of the bombardment. The first of these is the Convention signed by the Pasha and M. Garaschanin at the fortress, in the presence of the Consular body, and it is now generally asserted that it was in violation of this Convention that the bombardment took place; but this is a fallacy: the Convention provides only for the evacuation of the town by the Turks under certain conditions. Though it may be inferred from it that there was an understanding on both sides that hostilities should cease, and though certainly the Pasha, in resorting to the measure he did without previous warning or absolute necessity for it, was guilty of an infraction of public law, and seriously compromised the interests of his Government, still it is unfair to judge the bombardment as an isolated fact, and not take into consideration the circumstances which may have had an influence in bringing it about.

Even if we leave out of the question the series of violent and illegal acts, and all the previous provocation which paved the way to it, and for which the Servian Government must be held responsible; there is one proceeding which, from its immediate bearing on it, it is quite impossible to disconnect from the bombardment, and that is the wholesale pillage of the Turkish quarter; this, indeed, was in direct violation of an Article of the Convention signed in the fortress; nor ought we to disguise the fact that this was the cause of the irregular firing kept up after the greater part of the Turks had left the town; and that it powerfully operated as a provocative, as it should doubtless, also, in some measure, be admitted as a palliation of what followed.

The five depositions numbered V have been got up to prove that the bombardment was premeditated; but they prove only that fears and misgivings prevailed as to the coming event, and they cast suspicions on the Austrian authorities of Semlin quite as much as on the Turkish Governor of Belgrade.

The thirteen depositions numbered VI refer to events connected with the bombardment itself. It is stated in them that though a constant fire of musketry was kept up during the night of the 16th and the morning of the 17th, from the fortress, not a single shot was

fired from the town. This statement is diametrically opposed to that of the Turks ; the truth, I apprehend, lies between them. The Widdin gate of the fortress is close to the town, that is to say, to the Turkish quarter of it, from which it is separated only by the breadth of a road ; it was through this entrance that the fugitive population were received within the walls, and as according to my previous account, even after the mass had retreated, some individuals remained to defend their houses till they were driven out of them, there had been a running fight from time to time, and this it was which probably occasioned the skirmish about the Widdin gate in the morning. The firing then began and increased till it gradually brought on the bombardment.

Besides the falsehood and exaggeration which doubtless pervade both the Turkish and Servian statements, the discrepancy between them may partly be accounted for by the disregard which both pay to time and precedence as to the events which occurred. The Turks declare that the mustering of the Servian troops and the attack on the fortress took place before they opened their fire on the town ; the Servians, on the other hand, maintain that not a shot was fired by them till the bombardment had commenced, when they admit they employed all their forces to repel it. The truth, as before stated, is to be sought in a comparison of these contradictory statements, from which a probability, confirmed by Austrian evidence, results that the Servians, consisting of gendarmes, in the first instance had from daybreak maintained a fire on the fortress, but that the general attack upon it was only made after the bombardment had begun. What is stated by one of these witnesses as to the murder of the Pasha's messenger is correct—it took place after the Pasha had begun to bombard the town ; the persons who accompanied him were also put to death, but there were not four separate messengers. From M. Mondaine's Report (No. VII) he would appear to believe that previously to the bombardment, the whole town was in a state of the most perfect tranquillity, that, in fact, the Servians were not the aggressors.

It might be perfectly true that the conduct of a portion of the regular troops was very exemplary on the occasion, but it does not follow because the regular troops immediately under the command of M. Mondaine are supposed not to have fired in the direction of the fortress, that the " *bougeois armé* " had not availed themselves of any opportunity to annoy the Turkish soldiers on the ramparts.

M. Mondaine seems to have passed over altogether in his report the fact that in addition to his regular troops there were some 350 armed gendarmes prowling about the town who were not immediately under his orders ; and not only are these gendarmes now spoken of by the Servians themselves as having in reality caused the disturbances at the gates of the town, but they were also seen by many people firing from the side of the Save Capou into the fortress previously to the bombardment. M. Mondaine's assertion therefore, that his troops were quartered in the town, and that not a single shot was fired by them up to the moment of the guns from the fortress, is not of itself sufficient evidence to prove that the latter had not been menaced, or that the Turkish troops had not been exposed to a fire of musketry from a certain portion of the Servian population previously to the bombardment. With respect to what occurred on the 16th, when M. Mondaine says the Turks continued their fire up to 4 P.M. I beg to observe that as early as 8 A.M., when I repaired to the quarter mentioned by him with the Consular Body, and the town was being in a great measure evacuated by the Turks, there was no firing. I believe, however, that it was subsequently recommenced, and kept up at intervals till next morning ; the reason being that the few houses in which the Turks had chosen to remain for the purpose of defending their property, were attacked on all sides by a people eager for plunder.

No. 33.

Consul-General Longworth to Earl Russell.—(Received August 4.)

(Extract.)

Vienna, July 28, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch under date of the 7th, wherein your Lordship instructs me to afford you a further explanation as to the cessation of the bombardment, and to inform you whether that bombardment was, as the Turkish Governor alleges, a measure of defence on his part against a Servian attack.

I now have the honour to state that the cessation of the bombardment, from all I can understand, was in a great measure caused by the cessation of the fire of Servian musketry, which had been silenced by it.

In reply to your Lordship's question whether the bombardment was, as the Pasha alleges, a measure of defence on his part, I have to state that I fully believe it was. I

must at the same time express an opinion that it was not justified by the actual amount of danger to which the fortress was exposed, though undoubtedly insulted and menaced by the Servian gendarmes and populace.

The bombardment was also unaccompanied by the previous notification and forms of proceeding required to constitute legality.

No. 34.

Memorandum of Events which led to the Bombardment of Belgrade.—(Communicated by Aali Pasha to the Representatives at Constantinople, July 27, 1862. Received from Sir H. Bulwer, August 8.)

LA Sublime Porte, toujours et sincèrement bienveillante pour la nation Servienne, désirant vivre avec elle dans les meilleurs rapports et espérant encore y parvenir, est péniblement affectée d'être obligée d'exposer dans toute leur étendue les faits qui ont amené les événements récents. Appelé à fournir tous les éclaircissements à MM. les Représentants des Puissances garantes réunis en conférence il est du devoir du Gouvernement Impérial de faire un récit fidèle et circonstancié des incidents qui ont précédé ces regrettables événements. Ce récit fera connaître les vrais motifs et le principal mobile de la conduite réciproque des autorités de la citadelle et de la Servie. Les fauteurs des derniers troubles méditaient de gagner ou par un coup de main victorieux ce qu'ils voulaient obtenir, ou, si on venait à succomber à la lutte, exciter par cela même la commisération générale qui aurait disposé en leur faveur l'opinion publique. Ce plan depuis longtemps conçu et combiné avait besoin, pour être mis à exécution, de quelque prétexte. On le cherchait dans toute sorte de provocations. Les assassinats, les insultes contre nos soldats et les habitants Musulmans, avaient été mis à l'ordre du jour. Désespérés de ne pouvoir amener le résultat qu'on poursuivait, c'est-à-dire, de l'attitude calme et résignée tant des troupes de la garnison que des habitants Turcs, les fauteurs en question ont fini par frapper le coup qu'ils se proposaient.

Les détails des faits qui vont être relatés démontreront l'exactitude de cette assertion, mais avant d'y entrer il semble nécessaire de jeter un coup d'œil rapide sur les droits et les obligations mutuels, sur la série des violations commises contre ces obligations, sur la politique que le Prince Michael a suivie vis-à-vis de la Puissance Suzeraine, et sur la manière dont les deux populations vivaient ensemble jusqu'à ces derniers temps. L'on connaît les Actes qui constituent la Principauté de Servie ; les droits et les devoirs de chacun y sont clairement spécifiés. La simple comparaison de la teneur de ces Actes avec ce qui existe aujourd'hui suffira pour prouver de quel côté ils ont été méconnus. En vertu d'une des dispositions de l'Acte Constitutif les Musulmans ne doivent habiter que le faubourg de Belgrade, ou plutôt le rayon commandé par la forteresse au moyen de fossés et d'ouvrages qui l'entourent *ab antiquo*. On a réservé aux Serbes la faculté d'habiter et de faire le commerce dans cette ville Musulmane, et interdit aux Turcs de bâtir hors de la ville de Belgrade ; on a également arrêté que les Musulmans ne releveraient que de l'autorité directe du Muhafiz, de façon que la citadelle avec le faubourg restent une propriété absolue du Gouvernement Ottoman, et que les autorités Serbes de Belgrade n'ont aucun droit de s'ingérer dans la police des Musulmans résidant dans le faubourg et encore moins de la garnison de la forteresse ; dans ces conditions l'achat et la vente des propriétés entre les Turcs et les Serbes sont tolérés. C'est cet état de choses qui a reçu en 1856 la sanction solennelle des Puissances signataires du Traité de Paris. Un examen consciencieux de la position de la forteresse et du faubourg prouvera aussi que cette arrangement n'a été adopté dans le temps que par une nécessité absolue, et que la dénomination du faubourg n'est pas même applicable à la partie dont il s'agit.

Le faubourg, c'est la partie d'une ville qui est au-delà de ses portes et de son enceinte. Or, la partie de la ville de Belgrade à laquelle on donne abusivement ce nom n'est en réalité que le rayon sans lequel aucune forteresse ne peut exister.

Voici en résumé les obligations et les droits réciproques dans la question spéciale du faubourg de Belgrade.

Quant aux violations dont il a été parlé plus haut elles sont d'une nature générale et embrassent tout l'ensemble des rapports entre suzerain et vassal. Il est impossible de ne pas classer à la tête de cette catégorie une quantité de mesures qui tout en violant le *statu quo* garanti dénotaient des intentions de plus en plus hostiles à l'égard de la Sublime Porte. La plupart des lois et règlements qu'on a fait voter à la dernière Assemblée Générale, et parmi ces lois l'institution d'une milice composée de 90,000 hommes environ, la déclaration qui réserve au Prince seul de représenter la Servie à l'étranger et conclure des Traités et des Conventions, les préparatifs qui n'ont point discontinués depuis deux ans, l'entretien

des réfugiés qui ont fait de la Servie un foyer d'intrigues révolutionnaires, intrigues soutenues et encouragées par les journaux publiés à Belgrade sous les yeux de l'Administration Princière—sont autant de preuves à l'appui de ce qui vient d'être avancé. Les augustes alliés de Sa Majesté le Sultan connaissent la modération et même la patience que la Sublime Porte s'est imposée dans ces occurrences. Elle savait comme toute le monde que la Servie n'avait pas besoin d'une armée de 100,000 hommes pour le maintien de l'ordre intérieur, qui n'avait jamais été troublé, et que s'il venait à l'être le quart de cette force aurait suffi à le rétablir. Une pareille allégation ne pouvait être prise au sérieux. De cette façon une Constitution promulguée par un Hat Impérial et garanti par les Puissances garantes a subi des changements fondamentaux sans que ni Suzerain ni garants en fussent avertis ou consultés.

Les protestations réitérées de la Sublime Porte, les conseils des Puissances, sont restés infructueux ; et non content de ces illégalités on a eu recours à d'autres empiètements contre lesquels le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Sultan n'a cessé de protester.

Dans le faubourg même de Belgrade, où l'Administration Servienne n'avait ni besoin ni droit d'entretenir qu'un petit nombre d'agents de police, elle a organisé, sous la dénomination de gendarmerie un Corps composé de plusieurs centaines d'hommes choisis parmi tout ce que la Servie pouvait renfermer de mauvais sujets, des individus réfugiés dans la Principauté par suite des crimes commis dans les autres parties de l'Empire. Les faits qu'on va voir plus bas ne manqueront pas de montrer combien a été justes et fondées les plaintes des autorités Ottomanes, et comme le Gouvernement du Prince Michael doit être tenu responsable des atrocités que les soi-disant agents de police ont commises. Dès la fin de Janvier de l'année courante on élève le nombre de ces gendarmes de 40 à 300 ; on ajoute 100 nouveaux pandours à ceux qui existaient déjà, et on commence à les faire circuler dans les quartiers Musulmans en guise de patrouille, sous prétexte de maintenir le bon ordre, qui n'avait pas été un seul instant troublé. En vain les autorités Ottomanes réclament-elles contre une telle mesure, dont le résultat ne pouvait être autre que des conflits sérieux ; en vain cherchent-elles à convaincre le Gouvernement Princier de l'inutilité du danger et de l'illégalité de cette innovation. Elles ne rencontrent de la part de ce Gouvernement qu'une résistance invincible.

Pour ce qui est de la manière dont les deux populations ont vécu ensemble jusqu'au dernier temps on n'aura qu'à s'adresser à cet effet aux témoignages des hommes honorables de la Servie. M. Garaschanin, qui en est un au plus haut degré, disait naguère que depuis vingt ans il n'y avait eu que deux rixes et un homme tué. Donc ces deux populations n'ont jamais eu à se plaindre l'une contre l'autre, et la partie saine de la nation Serbe, qui a toute la sympathie de la Sublime Porte et qui compose l'immense majorité de cette intéressante nation, confirmera ce fait si son témoignage était requis.

Malgré tout cela, malgré ses droits légitimes de repousser l'ingérence de la police Serbe, la Sublime Porte a poussé l'esprit de conciliation jusqu'à proposer à M. Garaschanin lui-même, quand il a été à Constantinople, d'instituer à Belgrade un Conseil Mixte permanent chargé de la haute direction de la police de Belgrade et de l'instruction de tous les procès criminels entre les habitants Musulmans et les Serbes. Cette proposition, si propre à prévenir toutes les difficultés qu'on avait l'air de redouter, n'a pu non plus obtenir l'adhésion du Gouvernement Princier.

Environ un mois avant les derniers événements M. Garaschanin, dans une dépêche qu'il avait chargé le Capou-kehaya de Servie de lire au Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, faisait entendre d'une manière non équivoque qu'on était prêt à arriver par la force au résultat qu'on avait en vue. C'est une prise de possession, c'est, en d'autre terme, une conquête qu'on méditait et qu'on désirait réaliser, contrairement aux droits les plus positifs, par des moyens dont les conséquences naturelles, inévitables, ont été les faits déplorables qui suivent :

Le 2 Chaban (2 Février, 1862) Moustafa Tchaouche est tué à Widdin Capou de plusieurs coups de couteau donnés par des gendarmes.

Le 6 du même mois (6 Février, 1862) deux enfants Musulmans sont emprisonnés, battus et blessés par des gendarmes.

Le 14 Chaban (14 Février, 1862) le bourgeois Ottoman Fenerdji Youssouf est attaqué à la baïonnette par cinq gendarmes au moment où il se rendait chez lui. Il se sauva dans un café du voisinage, et sans la vitesse de sa course il eut été assassiné.

Tout le mois de Mars est consacré à des préparatifs sur une si vaste échelle que plusieurs agents étrangers crurent devoir avertir dès lors leurs Gouvernements d'une prochaine explosion à Belgrade.

Le 3 Chewal (2 Avril, 1862) des gendarmes prêtent la main à l'élargissement de quelques criminels de Bosnie, de passage à Belgrade sur le vapeur Autrichien en destination de Widdin. Les zaptiés qui les accompagnaient sont empêchés de débarquer.

Le 6 Chewal (5 Avril, 1862) les patrouilles Serbes qui circulent dans l'intérieur du faubourg, au lieu d'être retirées sur les justes réclamations du Muhafiz, sont augmentées. Un gendarme est placé à chaque vingt pas et deux autres sont apostés à chaque coin de me dans les quartiers Musulmans.

Les préparatifs ne discontinuent point ; ils sont portés par l'organe des journaux du pays sur le compte des vœux de la nation.

Le 24 Zilkadé (23 Mai, 1862) deux Musulmans sont arrêtés par un des Monténégrins enrôlés dans la gendarmerie Serbe. Voulant les conduire au poste Serbe, il passe par la porte de Stamboul. Mais au lieu de consigner ces deux hommes au corps de garde Turc de cette porte, il veut forcer le passage, lorsque l'un d'eux s'enfuit dans le poste. Le second, retenu par lui, crie au secours. Au moment où le factionnaire Turc veut se faire livrer le prisonnier, et comme l'officier du poste accourrait près du groupe pour s'informer des causes de ce tumulte, le gendarme tire tant sur l'un que sur l'autre son pistolet, qui ne prend pas feu, la capsule dans la précipitation de son mouvement venant de tomber par terre. Il dégaine alors son sabre pour en frapper l'officier, mais des soldats parviennent à la désarmer ; durant la lutte son ceinturon se casse. Après lui avoir pris ses armes on le relâche, et il se rend au poste Serbe, où ses armes venaient d'être envoyées par le poste Turc. Aussitôt une foule de Serbes armés, paraissant attendre ce moment, se porte sur le corps de garde Turc dont elle envahit les avenues, tandis qu'une compagnie de gendarmes charge les soldats à la baïonnette et occupe la place des factionnaires. Après les avoir repoussés sous le vestibule du corps de garde, cette compagnie se range en ligne de bataille, charge ses fusils, et s'empare ainsi de la porte de Stamboul. Une partie de la foule remplit de terre et de pierre un des canons placés sur le fossé en présence de la troupe Turque, le dirige contre la forteresse, et jette les guérites dans le fossé. A cette insulte qu'on leur fait, officier et soldats ne répondent que par une impassibilité et une longanimité remarquables qui ont seules empêché le développement du conflit. Achir Pacha, voulant donner une preuve de modération, se contente de demander la formation d'une Commission mixte d'enquête. M. Garaschanin semble y accéder, se réservant de prendre les ordres du Prince. Mais le lendemain, il refuse péremptoirement l'enquête et formule une réparation des plus humiliantes pour l'armée, en exigeant l'internement, sans enquête, dans la citadelle de l'officier et de la compagnie. Ce monsieur va jusqu'à déclarer que dans le cas où l'autorité de la forteresse refuserait cette réparation, les Musulmans qu'arrêteraient désormais les gendarmes, seraient conduits aux postes Serbes, et jugés par les tribunaux Serbes. Il se permet, par sa note officielle en date du 25 Zilkadé (24 Mai, 1862), d'abolir d'un trait de plume un état de choses qui repose sur des bases garanties par des Actes solennels. Cette façon d'agir du Gouvernement Serbe dans cet incident ne pouvait manquer d'être suivi de bien d'autres aussi regrettables et aussi attentatoires.

Le 27 Zilkadé (26 Mai, 1862), deux Musulmans sont arrêtés par des gendarmes vers la soir à Sava Capou. L'un parvient à se soustraire à ses violences, et l'autre reçoit sept blessures. Le malheureux blessé et mourant est traîné dans un café, où il est violemment battu au son cadencé de la musique d'un autre café voisin. Cet acte de férocité n'assouvit point la rage des barbares, qui portent le titre de gendarme ; ils jettent leur victime dans la Sava pour couronner leur œuvre. Mais la providence lui vint en aide, pour que son corps put au moins trouver une sépulture ; le courant le conduit à demi mort devant une des portes de la citadelle, qu'on appelle Caranlik-Capou. Pêché par les sentinelles, et porté à l'hôpital, il expire après avoir eu le temps de dénoncer ses meurtriers.

Le 8 Zilhidjé (5 Juin, 1862), un pandour tire son pistolet sur le Mulazim Kourchid Agha (Lieutenant-Capitaine), pendant qu'il était tranquillement assis dans une boutique près de Stamboul Capou ; mais la balle ne l'atteint pas. Le même pandour décharge immédiatement après un second coup sur le tatar de la poste Autrichienne Ibrahim Agha, assis dans la même boutique. Ce dernier meurt le lendemain des suites de sa blessure.

Ces assassinats, commis de sang froid par des individus appelés, selon le Gouvernement Serbe, à maintenir l'ordre public, devenaient l'objet des incessantes réclamations des autorités de la forteresse. Mais les autorités Serbes, loin de les réprimer, opposaient aux unes des dénégations, aux autres le refus de poursuivre les coupables ; à d'autres que les délinquants n'avaient pu être saisis ; pour quelques-uns que la plainte n'était pas fondée. Bref au milieu de cette série de méfaits, un seul cas a été l'objet d'une réparation partielle. Encore ne le doit-on qu'aux protestations énergiques du Consulat d'Autriche contre la violation par des gendarmes Serbes du vapeur Autrichien qui portait les condamnés Bosniaques en destination de Widdin.

Tandis que d'un côté tous les crimes se perpétuaient par les agents de l'autorité et qui restaient impunis, de l'autre on cherchait de prétextes pour pousser de hauts cris contre la violation des privilèges. Ainsi durant l'alerte causée par le meurtre du tatar Autrichien,

l'officier du corps de garde de la porte de Stamboul la fait fermer dans le but d'éviter une rixe sanglante. Cette circonstance devient l'objet d'une protestation dans laquelle, sans tenir le moindre compte de l'attentat commis, on qualifie une conduite purement défensive et commandée par le désir d'empêcher que ce nouvel incident ne prenne des proportions plus grandes, d'infraction des immunités de la Serbie. On ajoute à cette occasion que le Gouvernement Serbe n'est plus responsable du maintien de la tranquillité publique, et on semble déclarer ainsi, à l'étonnement général, la mise en état de siège de la ville de Belgrade.

Le 11 Zilhidjé (8 Juin, 1862), on voit avec une certaine surprise et regret le Prince Michel s'éloigner de Belgrade et laisser la ville dans un moment où elle était loin d'offrir un aspect tranquilisant, et où les agents appelés à faire respecter l'ordre public se mettaient à la tête de la populace pour commettre des atrocités inouïes. Immédiatement après le départ de son Altesse, le bruit commence à circuler, et à s'accréditer, que le but de sa tournée est de rallier les esprits au soutien de la lutte qui se préparait. On attribue au Prince des discours où il aura déclaré aux députations de villageois, venues à sa rencontre, que les Ottomans étaient sur le point de faire une levée de boucliers; que les Serbes devaient s'exercer au maniement des armes pour expulser leurs ennemis: que l'occasion s'offrait sous l'aspect le plus favorable pour les Serbes de gagner de nouvelles forces en suivant dans ces critiques circonstances la voie d'entière soumission à ses ordres.

Les fauteurs de trouble ont inféré de ce voyage que le Prince ne voulait pas compromettre sa responsabilité directe dans une explosion prochaine—explosion en faveur de laquelle il croyait en même temps nécessaire de réunir les suffrages des campagnes. On a même affirmé que c'était la conviction où en était que les Turcs n'auraient pas la faculté de se défendre, quoiqu'il arrive, qui a pu déterminer le Prince à laisser la Princesse son épouse à Belgrade. Le départ de son Altesse, encourageant ainsi les perturbateurs, déjà si enhardis, est suivi de près de nouveaux attentats.

Le 13 Zilhidjé (10 Juin, 1862), des gendarmes tirent sans provocation sur deux bourgeois Ottomans près de Stamboul Capou sans les atteindre.

L'autorité Serbe se fait fort de réclamer contre le port d'armes par des bourgeois Ottomans, tandis que plus de la moitié de la population Serbe se tenait armée, et que les autorités Ottomanes avaient pris toutes les mesures sous la garantie des notables d'empêcher leurs concitoyens de porter des armes.

La meilleure preuve en est qu'aucun bourgeois n'a pu se défendre à main armée au milieu de toutes ces oppressions meurtrières, et qu'aucune représaille n'a été commise par eux malgré l'impunité laissée aux coupables Serbes.

Le 17 Zilhidjé (14 Juin, 1862), un jeune Serbe vient insulter grossièrement le caporal de garde à Varouch Capou en lui imputant d'avoir lacéré le placard affiché sur cette porte. Ce jeune homme attroupe autour de lui une multitude de Serbes cherchant à provoquer une rixe, que l'attitude inoffensive du militaire a pu éviter.

Le résumé historique du Gouvernement Serbe garde soigneusement le plus profond silence sur cette longue série de faits, pour chacun desquels les plus vives instances lui avaient été en vain adressées par les autorités Ottomanes.

Le 18 Zilhidjé (15 Juin, 1862), un Juif loue dans le quartier Musulman une maison dans laquelle il construit un four. Les voisins éprouvant des craintes bien fondées, s'adressent au propriétaire de la maison pour faire enjoindre à son locataire de démolir le four ou de quitter la maison louée sans contrat. Celui-ci s'y étant refusé, le propriétaire s'adresse à diverses reprises aux autorités Turques et Serbes, et après deux mois le dit locataire consent à la démolition de son four, et il réclame à cet effet l'assistance de deux voisins pour transporter au dehors les matériaux lui appartenant, que son âge avancé ne lui permettait pas de porter lui-même. Ses voisins se rendent à son appel, et pendant qu'ils opéraient le transport, le Juif court furtivement à la police Serbe pour dire que les habitants du quartier démolissaient de force son four. Des agents Serbes, accompagnés du drogman Siméon et de quelques gendarmes, viennent sur les lieux, où ils sont rejoints par le Mulazim Mustafa Agha, que l'autorité Ottomane y envoyait de son côté avec deux soldats. Le drogman demande à l'un des voisins, le nommé Ahmet, s'il était l'auteur de cette démolition; et tandis que celui-ci essayait de lui expliquer le motif de sa présence le dit drogman donne aux gendarmes l'ordre de charger et de tirer sur les Musulmans qui s'y trouvaient. Grâce, cependant, à l'intervention de Moustafa Agha, que quelques Musulmans et Juifs avaient suivi, aucun sévices n'a pu être commis. Il est à observer que le sangfroid avec lequel Siméon ordonnait aux gendarmes de charger leurs armes et le ton dont il a proféré sa menace de ramener d'autres gendarmes, font préjuger de son intention criminelle de soulever un prétexte de désordres que l'intervention inoffensive de l'officier Turc a empêché de se produire d'autant plus que tout faisait présumer que la journée ne

s'écoulerait pas sans une nouvelle cause de rixe, qui a été créée effectivement. Le drogman Siméon a trouvé ainsi l'occasion de répéter son ordre de faire feu contre les soldats ; ordre qu'il ne cessait de donner depuis quelque temps.

Le 17 Zilhidjé (15 Juin, 1862), deux heures après l'incident précité, une Serbe se rend à Tchoucour Tchéchemé, où cinq soldats de ligne puisaient de l'eau avec leurs jarres après avoir attendu leur tour. Ce Serbe veut chasser le soldat et le pousse violemment contre le mur. Un autre soldat s'interpose dans la querelle et les ramène tous les deux à l'orifice de la fontaine. Alors une quinzaine de Serbes avec des femmes et des enfants s'attroupent, jettent des pierres aux soldats, les frappent et les pourchassent. Deux soldats se réfugient au poste du Zaptié, et les autres sont poursuivis et blessés par cette foule, qui veut les entraîner au poste de la police Serbe. La déclaration de M. Garaschanin de conduire les Ottomans arrêtés à la police Serbe et de les faire juger par les tribunaux reçoit ici sa première tentative d'application.

Par suite de l'alarme répandue par les Serbes propageant le faux bruit de l'assassinat d'un enfant par des Musulmans à Tchoucour Tchéchemé (au sujet duquel l'autorité Serbe s'est refusée d'ouvrir une enquête), le même drogman Siméon avec des gendarmes, et le Yuzbachi Ibrahim Agha avec quelques soldats, se rencontrent à trente pas du poste Turc (Zaptié). Ibrahim Agha invite les Serbes d'entrer dans le poste pour examiner l'affaire. Cette invitation si naturelle et si légale paraît avoir excité le courroux du drogman Siméon, qui voulait conduire les Ottomans au poste Serbe. Aussi, à peine Ibrahim Agha avait-il adressé cette invitation que Siméon tire son sabre et donne l'ordre à ses accolites de décharger. Un soldat Turc est blessé, un autre tué, et leurs camarades pour se défendre ripostent sur les Serbes. Le drogman et deux gendarmes reçoivent la punition qu'ils méritaient par leur agression. La multitude s'étant un peu dispersé, les soldats regagnent le corps de garde. Les gendarmes invitent alors les Serbes d'aller à la police se munir d'armes (dix jours auparavant des charriots chargés de munitions destinées aux portes Serbes avaient traversé la porte de Stamboul).

Soit de la place, soit du poste Serbe, situé sur une hauteur dominant le Zaptié Turc, des coups de fusils chargés à balle sont tirés sur les soldats. Le Chef de la Police, Mustafa Effendi, se met sur la défensive en fermant la porte du poste et en donnant l'ordre de tirer par les créneaux sur les assaillants, afin de ne pas tomber entre les mains de la multitude surexcitée par les gendarmes, désignant eux-mêmes le poste de chacun et indiquant en même temps les emplacements où les coups devaient porter.

Le Yuzbachi, Ahmed Agha, préposé à la garde de Stamboul Capou, ferme la porte sur l'avis qu'il reçoit de cet engagement, et se met aussi sur la défensive.

L'attaque est ouvertement engagée dès ce moment par les Serbes. En cet instant critique les Ottomans se contentent de fermer les portes pour leur défense. Des meurtres se commettent ce jour là sur des Musulmans dans les circonstances les plus atroces. Un gendarme Monténégrin met littéralement en pièces devant le Consulat de France un vieux vendeur de fruits, et un autre vieillard, traqué par la foule, est massacré par elle à la porte de sa boutique.

Le bruit des coups de fusils amènent les Consuls sur les lieux. Ils interviennent pour trouver un moyen d'arrêter l'effusion du sang. Une nuit d'orage survient et répand une profonde obscurité. M. Garaschanin soutient que sans faire entrer deux compagnies de Réguliers Serbes dans le faubourg pour contenir les envahisseurs, il ne pourrait prendre sur lui de rétablir l'ordre et la tranquillité. Cet expédient ne pouvant être utilisé qu'en mettant en communication l'autorité Ottomane avec l'autorité Serbe, le Consul d'Angleterre, malgré les périls d'une nuit très sombre, se rend à la citadelle, voit le Gouverneur et retourne en ville muni de deux lettres dont il remet l'une à M. Garaschanin ; quant à la seconde, adressée au Chef de la Police Turque Mustafa Effendi, il devient impossible de la faire parvenir à sa destination à cause de l'attaque contre le Zaptié qui ne discontinuait pas. Le Consul d'Angleterre retourne pour la seconde fois à la forteresse. Dans cet intervalle des gendarmes réunissent une foule de Serbes armés, envahissent le poste de Varouch Capou et celui de Sava Capou, et ils s'en rendent maîtres. Les troupes se retirent en éprouvant la perte d'un Major, d'un sergent et de cinq soldats. La population Musulmane se réfugie dans les mosquées, tandis qu'une partie se défend dans ses maisons. Les Serbes assiègent la plupart de ces maisons, y pénètrent en trouant les toits et massacrent quarante-trois hommes, trois femmes qui leur tombent sous la main, et blessent vingt-trois autres. Mais comme une partie des assaillants s'adonne plutôt au pillage des maisons environnant Staniboul Capou, plusieurs Musulmans réussissent à se réfugier dans la citadelle avec les seuls habillements qu'ils portaient. Le Général de Brigade, Edhem Pacha, se précipite de sa maison vers la forteresse pour prendre les mesures nécessaires. Chemin faisant il est poursuivi à son insu par des gendarmes. Son domestique l'en

prévient, et comme il se détournait pour s'en assurer, il fait un faux pas et tombe. Les gendarmes l'atteignent et dans ce moment surviennent le drogman du Prince et d'autres personnes, qui le reconnaissent et le délivrent des mains de ses agresseurs.

A la vue des proportions prises par le conflit, l'autorité de la forteresse cherche à se mettre en communication avec l'autorité Serbe, et elle expédie à M. Garaschanin, Mucaïd Khalil Effendi, et le Mulazim Mehemet Agha. Ces messagers ne le rencontrent pas. Le Yuzbachi d'Artillerie, Suleyman Agha, et le Zaptié Bedjeb, sortent travestis de la citadelle pour aller chez le Consul d'Angleterre. Ils ne peuvent y parvenir, l'attaque des portes du faubourg les empêchant de les franchir.

Alors trois compagnies de ligne sont envoyées à la porte de Widdin et du côté du Bazar. La première compagnie, expédiée à la défense du quartier Musulman, se croise avec M. Garaschanin entre le Zaptié Turc et la limite du faubourg. Elle lui fait connaître sa mission. M. Garaschanin la fait retourner en lui disant qu'elle courait un grand péril si elle s'aventurait dans les quartiers Musulmans. Cette compagnie est accueillie dans la traversée de la place d'armes par des feux croisés partant des rues latérales et des maisons.

Le Major Mehemet Ali Agha et quelques soldats sont atteints. L'officier et les gendarmes qui avaient été chargés par M. Garaschanin de l'accompagner participent à l'attaque en déchargeant sur elle par derrière, et alors la troupe qui composait la compagnie se retourne contre elle et sa décharge atteint l'officier qui l'avait si ignominieusement trahie.

Les deux autres compagnies s'étant avancées jusqu'aux portes du faubourg, les Musulmans reprennent à leur vue un peu de courage et commencent à faire évacuer leurs familles vers la forteresse au milieu d'une nuit obscure. Le pillage, la fusillade, et l'incendie mettent le comble à l'effroi et à la misère de cette multitude de femmes, d'enfants, de vieillards naguère jouissant d'une prospérité relative à ce terrible instant, ayant perdu maison, fortune, parents, amis, et n'ayant pu conserver que les habits qui étaient sur eux!! C'est en ce moment que M. le Consul d'Angleterre pénètre pour la seconde fois dans la forteresse; il fut de nouveau question de l'entrée provisoire de deux compagnies régulières Serbes dans le faubourg pour rétablir l'ordre, et le retrait, également provisoire, dans la forteresse, sous la garantie le M. Garaschanin, des troupes et des bourgeois cernés dans le poste de la police Turque, dans les mosquées et à la porte de Stamboul; M. le Consul d'Angleterre rentre en ville et il retourne à deux heures après minuit à la citadelle accompagné de ses collègues des autres Puissances et de M. Garaschanin. Pendant la délibération tenue dans les appartements du Général de Brigade Edhem Pacha, situés au centre de la citadelle, les murs sont atteints par une grêle de balles. M. Garaschanin expédie à deux reprises l'ordre de cesser le feu.

Le 19 Zilhidjé (16 Juin, 1862) bref on adopte les termes d'un arrangement provisoire. La sûreté des troupes est garantie par M. Garaschanin jusqu'à leur retraite dans la forteresse. Les maisons et les biens des Musulmans résidant dans le faubourg sont également assurés, et ceux des habitants qui n'auraient pas abandonné leurs demeures doivent jouir d'une protection efficace. Cet arrangement est signé, sous la réserve des questions de droit, par Achir Pacha, M. Garaschanin, et tous les Consuls.

Au lever du soleil, M. Garaschanin et MM. les Consuls se dirigent vers le faubourg pour empêcher le feu et le pillage. Ils expédient des officiers d'ordonnance accompagnés de gendarmes au zaptié, à la porte de Stamboul, et à Deort-yol, pour faire annoncer la cessation des hostilités. Les Consuls prennent des mesures pour la retraite des troupes et des bourgeois renfermés dans les mosquées, dans des maisons et des boutiques situées aux environs de la porte de Stamboul, et pour faire enlever les cadavres des femmes et des enfants hideusement mutilés. En passant par la porte de Stamboul, ils observent qu'elle est criblée de balles et que la troupe conservait toujours son attitude impassible. Une fois le point de l'évacuation obtenu les auteurs de ces horribles carnages commencèrent à viser à d'autres tentatives dont le but n'était rien moins que de s'emparer par surprise de la citadelle. On fait introduire dans le faubourg les deux compagnies de réguliers Serbes, on place en embuscade dans le quartier Juif près du Danube deux bataillons de troupes des villages. M. Cristich publie une Proclamation officielle qui est suivie du pillage, commencée à la pointe du jour dans le seul quartier de Defterdar, devient général vers 10 heures dans tout le faubourg Musulman longtemps après la signature de l'arrangement et malgré les engagements de M. Garaschanin. Le quartier Juif subit le même sort. Le feu est mis à quelques maisons situées tant à Deort-yol et la porte de Widdin que derrière le zaptié. Les pillards emportent sous les yeux même de l'autorité Serbe le produit de leur rapines. Il y a eu même parmi eux un bon nombre de gendarmes et de pandours. Cette circonstance prouve qu'on n'avait pris d'autres mesures que celles d'occuper militairement le faubourg sans se préoccuper trop des moyens de protéger les propriétés des Musulmans.

C'est à midi seulement qu'on envoie des gendarmes pour arracher les objets pillés des

maines de ceux qui passaient aux environs du local de la police. Ces objets se trouvent entassés près du Consulat de Prusse. Les autorités de la citadelle les réclament, mais on répond qu'on ne peut encore les restituer à leurs propriétaires, réfugiés pour la plupart dans la citadelle, n'avaient que leur chemise pour se couvrir la nuit.

Les réfugiés de la mosquée de Defterdar sont défendus durant cinq heures par Mahmoud Effendi, comptable de l'artillerie. Ils sont secourus jusqu'au matin par un ancien officier Serbe, mû d'un sentiment d'humanité à la vue de tant de créatures désarmées et menacées d'un massacre atroce.

A midi sur le bruit d'une prétendue attaque de la citadelle, propagé par les Serbes, Mr. Longworth s'y transporte. Il la visite en tous sens. Il adresse quelques paroles de consolation aux réfugiés exaspérés par la vue de l'incendie et du pillage de leurs maisons.

La mort d'un soldat atteint sur le rempart par un des projectiles que des gendarmes postés du côté de la Save ne cessaient depuis le matin d'envoyer dans la place accroit l'inquiétude, et malgré cela les ordres des autorités sont respectueusement écoutés et exécutés par les réfugiés. Cependant une circonstance antérieure avait ébranlé avec raison leur confiance, et rendait difficile le maintien de leur calme. Voici ce fait. Une vingtaine de jours avant l'explosion des hostilités, ces réfugiés s'étaient rendus au Melkémé et au sein du Conseil pour confier leurs appréhensions sur une prochaine attaque dont le secret avait été, à dessein, divulgué par certains Serbes partisans de désordres. A cet effet ils avaient demandé l'autorisation d'amener dans la citadelle leurs familles et leurs biens. Les autorités dissipèrent ces craintes par l'assurance que la tranquillité ne serait pas un instant troublée et les persuadèrent de l'inutilité de ces précautions en leur recommandant d'éviter de répondre aux nouvelles provocations qui seraient tentées à l'effet de produire ces désordres. De sorte que ces malheureux, à peine sauvés d'une mort certaine, réduit à la dernière misère, n'osaient plus se croire en sûreté même dans la forteresse.

Les choses en étaient à ce point lorsque dans l'après-midi on fait courir pour la seconde fois le bruit d'une attaque de la citadelle. Le Consul d'Angleterre, qui s'y était rendu, s'assure par lui-même qu'aucune disposition militaire ne confirme cette rumeur. Il remarque seulement parmi les réfugiés un vif mais juste sentiment d'indignation. Achir Pacha dans son entretien avec Mr. Longworth lui déclare qu'il n'emploiera la force qu'autant qu'il y serait provoqué, et obligé par les Serbes. Il ajoute que l'émigration des familles Serbes lui faisait entrevoir une prochaine attaque contre la citadelle. Cette déclaration est répétée au Consul d'Autriche, qui venait de pénétrer dans la forteresse après le retour de Mr. Longworth. Achir Pacha fait parvenir, par l'entremise de M. Wassitch, à M. Garaschanin des signaux de fanal de convention pour se mettre en cas de besoin la nuit en communication avec l'autorité Serbe. Cette mesure de précaution fort importante clôt les événements de la journée de Lundi.

Vers 1 heure à la Turque après le coucher du soleil, des Serbes postés dans les maisons et les boutiques situées à trente pas des portes de Widdin et de Carenlik engagent les premiers la fusillade. Cette fusillade ne cesse jusqu'à 4 heures de la nuit, et elle augmente tellement de tous côtés qu'Achir Pacha fait usage du signal pour faire cesser l'attaque. Il le répète plusieurs fois, mais M. Garaschanin n'y répond pas.

Les assaillants deviennent vers le matin plus nombreux devant la porte de Widdin. Ces tirailleurs débouchent du côté de l'église, où une grande quantité de matériaux d'escalade est amoncelée. Le fanal hissé de nouveau reste sans réponse. Que pouvaient penser les autorités Ottomanes sinon à un piège tendu ?

Le 20 Zilhidjé (17 Juin, 1862) Achir Pacha, soucieux du silence de M. Garaschanin, lui envoie à 7 heures du matin Mahmoud Effendi, précédé d'une personne portant le drapeau parlementaire pour l'engager, ainsi que MM. les Consuls, à se rendre à la citadelle. Le Conseil et les notables sont également convoqués.

Pendant la rédaction d'un télégramme, annonçant l'envoi à Constantinople d'un messenger, une vibrante acclamation fend les aïes. Chacun dans la citadelle court à la porte de Widdin dont la grille venait d'être forcée, et peu d'instants après les cris se reproduisent du côté de la porte de Stamboul. On annonce que les Serbes montent à l'assaut. Le Gouverneur et les officiers se précipitent sur les créneaux et aperçoivent en effet que plus de 1,000 réguliers, gendarmes, et irréguliers Serbes se portent sur Widdin Capou par l'intérieur du faubourg, et que celle de Stamboul est assaillie par 1,500 autres ; que des gendarmes occupent les minarets, et que d'autres mêlés au peuple étaient postés sur la place d'armes et gardaient l'espace compris entre la porte de Stamboul à la Save, en ayant devant eux, vers l'église, un corps mixte de gendarmes et d'irréguliers Serbes. Un autre corps de réguliers et d'irréguliers avait aussi pris position devant Carenlik Capou. Au milieu de ce mouvement agressif, des canons étaient amenés du côté de Bazar Yéi et de Varouch Capou, des obusiers étaient braqués du côté de l'église et en tête de la rue de Bayrakli Djami.

La fusillade se développait considérablement, les éclats d'une bombe venaient tomber à côté de la mosquée de la citadelle, et une autre lancée des environs de l'église éclatait en l'air entre l'hôpital militaire et la porte de Widdin. Mahmoud Effendi ne reparaisait pas, quoiqu'une heure et quart se fût écoulée depuis son départ, ayant été tué avec son compagnon par les gendarmes. Le Mulazim Moustafa Agha est blessé sur le rempart Deirmen, et cet incident fait renaître la douleur des réfugiés dont les femmes ou les parents avaient été massacrés la veille sous leurs yeux. Des cris d'avertissements pour les éloigner de la forteresse sont poussés ; malgré des signaux, les envahisseurs ne cessent d'avancer. Le Conseil décide alors unanimement d'éloigner les assaillants à coups de fusils. Ceux-ci, parmi lesquels on remarque les tirailleurs à leur collet d'uniforme, sans ralentir leur marche et leur fusillade, se rapprochent davantage des portes de la citadelle. Poussés par la conviction qu'il n'est pas permis à la forteresse de se servir de son artillerie—conviction devenue un stimulant pour leur audace et leur arrogance—they se hasardent à une courte portée des remparts dans l'espoir de s'en emparer par un hardi coup de main. D'une autre part un corps de réguliers se porte au pas accéléré du côté de l'église où des barricades avaient été élevées. Le Conseil délibère sur l'emploi du canon. Des officiers sont expédiés sur les créneaux pour surveiller les progrès de l'attaque et reviennent faire connaître la nécessité de se défendre. Vers les 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ heures du matin deux coups de canons, chargés à poudre, sont par intervalle tirés des fortifications de la porte de Stamboul, et les drapeaux sont hissés. Cet avertissement n'arrête non plus le feu des Serbes qui pénètrent jusque dans les fossés. La forteresse était tellement peu préparée et qu'elle méditait si peu de bombarder la ville à ce moment critique que les ponts-levis n'étaient pas amenés ni les portes bien fermées. Il en résultait donc que les Serbes auraient pu envahir la citadelle, si on ne s'était pas opposé par l'Artillerie à leur attaque progressive. Aussi sont-ils chassés de la porte de Widdin par les coups de canons tirés de la batterie inférieure, tandis que la batterie supérieure de la porte Stamboul et celle de Caranlik Capou dirigeaient leurs coups sur la place d'armes et la Save. Les Serbes cessent ainsi l'attaque, abandonnent les abords de la citadelle dans l'intervalle d'un quart d'heure, et se retranchent dans les maisons environnantes.

MM. les Consuls ne pouvaient connaître toutes les circonstances qui s'étaient passées durant la nuit. Ils ne pouvaient pas être informés ni du silence obstiné qu'on avait opposé aux signaux de détresse de la citadelle, ni du retard depuis près de deux heures du parlementaire dont on ignorait encore le terrible sort. Ils n'ont pu donc dresser leur protestation que sous l'impression du moment, et sur le rapport d'une seule partie sans avoir eu le temps d'écouter l'autre. On ne peut prononcer un jugement équitable et juste qu'en prenant en même considération toutes les circonstances qui ont amené ce résultat. La conviction où on entretenait les acteurs des horribles carnages qui viennent d'ensanglanter la ville de Belgrade quoiqu'il arrive et malgré l'arrangement signé et accepté de part et d'autre, ils pouvaient faire feu sur les Turcs sans que ceux-ci aient le droit de se défendre, suffisait à elle seule pour les décider à accomplir l'œuvre qu'ils méditaient.

De cette conviction on inférait qu'il était permis aux ingénieurs et aux Agents Serbes d'étudier le terrain à proximité de la forteresse sur une hauteur dominant le cimetière, pour l'établissement d'un retranchement et d'un cordon de siège régulier autour du faubourg, de tenir prêts des milieus de fascines et d'échelles pour remplir les fossés avec les uns et escalader les murs par les autres ; d'acheter des boutiques et magasins toutes les barres d'acier disponible, de les transformer en engins de guerre et de les distribuer au peuple ; de proclamer que la Bosnie, la Bulgarie, et la Valachie attendaient le résultat de ce mouvement à Belgrade pour s'y rallier à leur tour ; de former plusieurs bandes armées, commandées par des officiers Serbes ; de tenir campés le long de la rivière de Drin 8,000 hommes avec 8 canons ; d'échellonner sur les rives de la Save, de Varza à Mitroviza, des bandes armées de villageois, débutant par la prise d'un bâtiment Ottoman chargé de fer et par l'assassinat des propriétaires Musulmans ; d'établir des corps de garde en face de la forteresse pour les faire monter de jour par 10 à 20 individus, et les remplir de bandes considérables pendant la nuit ; de braquer dans le faubourg 10 canons et 2 obusiers contre la forteresse ; de faire inspecter les fusils de la populace pour remplacer ceux qui seraient hors de service et de l'inviter à se munir de cartouches à la police Serbe moyennant 60 paras la pièce. Au milieu de toutes ces circonstances, constatant les provocations préméditées et les moyens d'attaque préparés et réunis de longue main, on ne saura rendre responsable les autorités qui se sont trouvées dans le cas de légitime défense.

Peut-on trouver un seul fonctionnaire, ou un seul officier militaire au monde, qui puisse laisser égorger sous ses yeux des milliers d'êtres humains confiés à sa garde, et permettre l'accomplissement d'une agression contre la forteresse qu'il est chargé de défendre avant d'avoir épuisé tous les moyens de repression en son pouvoir ? Un pareil homme, s'il y en avait, serait le plus grand traître et mériterait l'exécration de l'univers

entier. Si quelques formalités n'ont pu être remplies du côté des Ottomans, que ne doit-on pas reprocher aux Serbes au milieu de toutes ces collisions ? Les assaillants n'ayant averti la forteresse de leurs attaques que par un fusillade des plus vives, le château fort pouvait-il fixer un délai et demeurer silencieux sous le coup d'un assaut jusqu'à l'expiration de ce délai ? C'est la mise à exécution de l'arrangement qui impliquait ce délai dont l'expiration était constatée par la violation des engagements pris par M. Garaschanin. Du moment où le pillage, l'incendie, la fusillade, et les attaques contre la forteresse continuaient après la signature de l'arrangement qui renfermait de larges concessions de la part des autorités Ottomanes, en ce sens qu'elles abandonnaient provisoirement aux Serbes le faubourg situé dans l'enceinte de la citadelle, ces autorités avaient parfaitement le droit de puiser dans les forces à leur disposition les moyens de repousser les résultats de l'inexécution du susdit arrangement—inexécution qui ne pouvait que mettre une terne à leur inaction. A qui donc pourrait-on attribuer la faute, sinon aux meneurs Serbes ? Le résumé historique Servien ne débute que par l'incident du 15^e Juin ; il présente toutes les phases qui l'ont suivi sous un point de vue peu conforme à l'exacte vérité. En lisant ce document on se demande pourquoi, suivant son chiffre, ces 26 Serbes sont tués, et 22 autres sont blessés ?

Ne savait-on pas, par hasard, que les cadavres de Musulmans, nombreux cadavres gisaient aussi dans les rues ? Nous remplissons cette lacune. Les pertes des Ottomans ont été de 71 tués et 47 blessés : dont 2 officiers, 3 sergents, 9 soldats, et 57 bourgeois, femmes, enfants tués ; et 12 soldats, 35 bourgeois blessés. D'autre part pour justifier les provocations, leur conduite, les auteurs des événements en question cherchent à en faire remonter la cause à l'etermoisement de la solution des points relatifs à la police du faubourg. Cette question, qui n'a eu d'autre base, au point de vue Serbe, que l'abandon complète du faubourg, et par conséquent la violation du Hatti-Schérif de 1833 au détriment de la Porte, ne pouvait nécessairement être tranchée selon leur bon plaisir. On a cité plus haut les propositions conciliantes que la Sublime Porte s'est empressée d'offrir pour faire disparaître les soi-disant sujets de conflits dont on parlait. Serait-il logique de penser que le Gouvernement Ottoman devrait s'empresse de se désister des droits acquis *ab antiquo* et consacrés par des Actes solennels ? Par une interposition de situation M. Garaschanin avance dans sa note du 18 Juin des lamentations, en assurant que le résultat de l'enchaînement des conflits regrettables, provoqués à Belgrade, n'avait eu aucun motif, et il demande qu'il soit pris en faveur de la Serbie une résolution capable de rendre impossible désormais de pareilles calamités. Sa demande n'implique rien moins que sollicitation de la bienveillance des Cours suzeraine et garantes de donner une consécration internationale aux scènes de désordres qui viennent de se produire.

On saisit toutes les occasions pour mettre en avant la singulière prétention d'avoir pour soi tout le droit de renforcer ses moyens d'attaque contre les forteresses du Sultan et d'interrompre toute communication entr'elles, sans que la Sublime Porte puisse les secourir.

On hésiterait à croire à une telle exigence si on ne la voyait formulée dans une note officielle en date du 8 Juillet et signée par M. Garaschanin lui-même ; note qui est destinée à servir de protêt contre l'apparition dans le Danube d'un bâtiment à vapeur de la Marine Impériale : tandis que le Gouvernement Serbe a rassemblé et continue à rassembler de l'intérieur à Belgrade, bannières déployées, une infinité de bandes armées et d'autres moyen d'agression.

En conclusion, il est établi par l'enquête faite par Ahmed Vefyk Effendi, et dont les détails sont exposés ci-haut, que les Serbes ont commis sur une grande échelle les plus graves agressions ; que les provocations meurtrières se sont transformées en attaques ouvertes qui ont fait naître la triste nécessité pour la garnison Ottomane de les repousser par l'usage de son Artillerie ; qu'une longue série de circonstances justifient Achir Pacha dans la résolution extrême qu'il a prise ; que la situation à laquelle les autorités Ottomanes se sont trouvées réduites depuis plus de quatre mois et l'inexécution de l'arrangement du 16 Juin, légitimement la défense de la forteresse contre les hostilités venant avec acharnement du dehors.

La Sublime Porte s'empresse de soumettre tout ces détails véridiques à l'appréciation équitable et impartiale de ses augustes alliés. Elle est persuadée qu'ils voudront bien y consacrer leur bienveillante et sérieuse attention.

(Translation.)

THE Sublime Porte, always and sincerely well-disposed towards the Servian nation, wishing to live with it on the best terms, and still hoping to succeed in this, feels painfully the necessity of relating in all their details the facts which caused the recent events. Called upon to furnish every explanation to the Representatives of the guaranteeing Powers assembled in Conference, the Imperial Government is bound to furnish a faithful

and circumstantial account of the incidents which preceded these lamentable events. This account will show the true motives and the guiding principle of the conduct of the authorities of the citadel and of Serbia respectively. The partizans of the late troubles intended either to gain what they sought by a victorious *coup de main*, or, if they were to fail in the struggle, by that very failure to excite that general commiseration which would have disposed public opinion in their favour. This plan, which had been long conceived and arranged, required some pretext for its execution. This was sought for in all sorts of provocations. Assassinations, insults to our soldiers and the Mussulman inhabitants, had become the order of the day. In despair at not bringing about the result they were pursuing, that is to say, in despair at the calm and resigned attitude both of the troops of the garrison and of the Turkish inhabitants, the partizans in question finished by striking the blow which they had been meditating.

The details of the facts which are now to be related will prove the correctness of this assertion, but before entering into them, it seems necessary to cast a rapid glance at the mutual rights and obligations, at the series of violations of these obligations, at the policy which Prince Michael has pursued towards the Suzerain Power, and at the manner in which the two populations lived together till lately. The Acts which constitute the Principality of Serbia are known; the rights and duties of each are therein clearly specified. A simple comparison of the tenor of these Acts with what exists at the present day will be sufficient to prove by which side they have been ignored. By virtue of one of the provisions of the Constituting Act the Mussulmans are only to inhabit the faubourg of Belgrade, or rather the rayon commanded by the fortress by means of ditches and works which surround it *ab antiquo*. To the Servians was reserved the power of living and trading in this Mussulman town, and the Turks were interdicted from building outside the town of Belgrade; it was equally settled that the Mussulmans should only be under the direct authority of the Muhafiz, so that the citadel with the faubourg remain the absolute property of the Ottoman Government, and the Servian authorities of Belgrade have no right to interfere with the police of the Mussulmans residing in the faubourg, and still less with the garrison of the fortress: on these conditions the purchase and sale of properties between the Turks and Servians are allowed. This is the state of things which in 1856 received the solemn sanction of the Powers who signed the Treaty of Paris. A conscientious examination of the position of the fortress and of the faubourg will also prove that this arrangement was only adopted at the time as an absolute necessity, and that the term "faubourg" is not even applicable to the part in question.

The faubourg is the part of a town which is beyond its gates and its precincts. Now, the part of the town of Belgrade to which this name is wrongly given is in reality only the rayon without which no fortress can exist.

Such is an abstract of the reciprocal obligations and rights in the special question of the faubourg of Belgrade.

As to the violations which were mentioned above, they are of a general nature, and embrace the entirety of the relations between suzerain and vassal. It is impossible not to class at the head of this category a quantity of measures which, at the same time that they violated the guaranteed *statu quo*, denoted more and more hostile intentions towards the Sublime Porte. The majority of the laws and regulations which were voted at the last General Assembly, and among these laws the institution of a Militia composed of about 90,000 men, the declaration which reserves to the Prince alone the representation of Serbia abroad, and the conclusion of Treaties and Conventions, the preparations which have not been discontinued for the last two years, the maintenance of refugees who have made of Serbia a centre of revolutionary intrigues, intrigues which have been kept up and encouraged by the newspapers published at Belgrade under the eyes of the Prince's Administration—are so many proofs in support of what has just been put forward. The august allies of His Majesty the Sultan are aware of the moderation, and even patience, which the Sublime Porte imposed upon itself when these things occurred. It knew, as all the world did, that Serbia did not require an army of 100,000 men for the preservation of internal order, which had never been troubled, and that if it were to be, the fourth part of that force would have been sufficient to re-establish it. Such an allegation could not be taken in earnest. In this way a Constitution promulgated by an Imperial Hat, and guaranteed by the guaranteeing Powers, has undergone fundamental changes, without either Suzerain or guarantors being warned or consulted.

The repeated protests of the Sublime Porte and the advice of the Powers have borne no fruit, and not content with these illegalities, the Servians have had recourse to other encroachments, against which the Government of His Majesty the Sultan have not ceased to protest.

Even in the faubourg of Belgrade, where the Servian Administration neither required nor had the right to maintain more than a small number of police agents, it has organized,

under the denomination of *gendarmérie*, a Body composed of several hundred men chosen from among all the bad characters to be found in Servia, individuals who had taken refuge in the Principality in consequence of crimes committed in the other parts of the Empire. The facts which will be seen further on will not fail to show how just and founded were the complaints of the Ottoman authorities, and how the Government of Prince Michael must be held responsible for the atrocities which the so-called police agents have committed. At the end of January of the present year the number of these gendarmes is raised from 40 to 300; 100 new pandours are added to those already existing, and they begin to be moved about the Mussulman quarters after the manner of patrols, under pretext of preserving good order, which has never for a single instant been disturbed. In vain the Ottoman authorities exclaim against such a measure, the result of which could not be otherwise than serious conflicts; in vain they seek to convince the Prince's Government of the uselessness, the danger, and the illegality of this innovation. They only meet with an invincible resistance on the part of that Government.

With regard to the manner in which the two populations have lived together till lately, it will only be necessary to consult the testimony of honourable men in Servia. M. Garaschanin, who is one of the most honourable of them, said lately that for the last twenty years there had only been two quarrels and one man killed. Therefore these two populations have never had to complain of one another, and the sound portion of the Servian nation, which has all the sympathy of the Sublime Porte, and which composes the immense majority of this interesting nation, will confirm this fact, if its testimony were required.

In spite of all this, in spite of its legitimate right to reject the interference of the Servian police, the Sublime Porte pushed the spirit of reconciliation so far as to propose to M. Garaschanin himself, when he was at Constantinople, to institute at Belgrade a permanent Mixed Council charged with the supreme direction of the Belgrade police and the conduct of all the criminal suits between the Mussulman inhabitants and the Servians. This proposal, too, so calculated to obviate all the difficulties which people pretended to fear, has not obtained the approval of the Prince's Government.

About a month before the late events, M. Garaschanin, in a despatch which he had instructed the Capou-Kehaya of Servia to read to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, showed in no equivocal manner that they were ready to arrive by force at the result in view. It was a taking possession, it was, in other terms, a conquest that they were meditating and that they desired to realize, contrary to the most positive rights, by means the natural and inevitable results of which were the following deplorable facts:—

On the 2nd Chaban (February 2, 1862), Moustafa Tchaouche is killed at Widdin Capou by several stabs given by gendarmes with knives.

On the 6th of the same month (February 6, 1862), two Mussulman children are imprisoned, beaten, and wounded by gendarmes.

On the 14th Chaban (February 14, 1862), the Ottoman citizen, Fenerdji Youssouf, is attacked by five gendarmes with bayonets just as he was going home. He got away into a neighbouring café, and if he had not run quickly he would have been assassinated.

All the month of March is devoted to preparations on so vast a scale that several foreign agents considered it their duty at that time to warn their Governments of an approaching outbreak at Belgrade.

On the 3rd Chewal (April 2, 1862), some gendarmes assist at the evasion of some Bosnian criminals, who had touched at Belgrade on the Austrian steamer on their way to Widdin. The *zaptiés* who accompanied them are prevented from disembarking.

On the 6th Chewal (April 5, 1862), the Servian patrols who go their rounds in the interior of the faubourg, instead of being withdrawn on the just reclamation of the *Muhafiz*, are increased. A gendarme is placed at every twenty paces, and two others are posted at each street corner in the Mussulman quarters.

The preparations are not discontinued; they are ascribed by the voice of the newspapers to the wishes of the nation.

On the 24th Zilkadé (May 23, 1862), two Mussulmans are arrested by one of the Montenegrins enrolled in the Servian *gendarmérie*. Wishing to conduct them to the Servian police station, he passes by the Stamboul gate. But instead of delivering these two men to the Turkish guard of this gate, he tries to force a passage, when one of the two escapes into the guard-house. The second, kept back by him, calls out for assistance. Just as the Turkish sentry is attempting to have the prisoner given up to him, and the officer of the guard is running up to the group to ascertain the cause of the tumult, the gendarme snaps his pistol at them both, but the pistol does not go off, the cap falling to the ground in the hurry of his movement. He then draws his sabre in order to strike the officer, but some soldiers succeed in disarming him; during the struggle his belt is broken. After having deprived him of his arms they let him go, and he proceeds to the Servian

station-house, where his arms had just been sent by the Turkish guard. Immediately a crowd of armed Servians, who seemed to be waiting for this moment, proceed to the Turkish guard-house, and occupy its entrances, whilst a company of gendarmes charge the soldiers with their bayonets, and take the place of the sentries. After having driven them back into the vestibule of the guard-house, this company draws itself up in line of battle, loads its muskets, and thus gets possession of the Stamboul gate. A portion of the crowd, in presence of the Turkish troops, fill one of the guns placed on the ditch with earth and stones, direct it against the fortress, and throw the sentry-boxes into the ditch. To this insult put upon them, the officer and soldiers only reply by a remarkable imperturbability and forbearance, which alone prevented the development of the conflict. Achir Pasha, wishing to give a proof of moderation, contents himself with demanding the formation of a Mixed Commission of Inquiry. M. Garaschanin appears to give his assent, only he must take the orders of the Prince. But, on the morrow, he peremptorily refuses the inquiry, and insists upon what would be a most humiliating reparation for the army, viz., the imprisonment in the citadel, without inquiry, of the officer and the company. This gentleman goes so far as to declare that, in case the authorities of the fortress should refuse this reparation, the Mussulmans who should in future be arrested by the gendarmes should be conducted to the Servian stations, and judged by the Servian tribunals. He ventures, by his official note dated the 25th Zilkadé (May 24, 1862), to abolish, with a stroke of his pen, a state of things which rests on bases guaranteed by solemn Acts. The course of action of the Servian Government in this instance could not fail to be followed by many other instances as lamentable and as outrageous.

On the 27th Zilkadé (May 26, 1862), two Mussulmans are arrested by gendarmes towards evening at Sava Capou. One succeeds in escaping from their violence, and the other receives seven wounds. The unfortunate man, wounded and dying, is dragged into a café, where he is violently beaten to the regular sound of music from another neighbouring café. This ferocious act does not assuage the passion of the barbarians who bear the title of gendarmes; they throw their victim into the Sava to crown their work. But Providence came to his aid, in order that his body might at least find a burial-place; the current bore him, half-dead, in front of one of the citadel gates, called Caranlik-Capou. Fished out by the sentinels, and carried to the hospital, he expires after having had time to denounce his murderers.

On the 8th Zilhijé (June 5, 1862), a pandour fires his pistol at the Mulazim Kourchid Agha (Lieutenant and Captain) whilst he was quietly seated in a shop near Stamboul Capou, but the bullet does not hit him. The same pandour immediately afterwards discharges a second shot at the Tatar of the Austrian guard-house, Ibrahim Agha, seated in the same shop. The latter dies next day from the effects of his wound.

These assassinations, committed in cold blood by individuals called, according to the Servian Government, to preserve public order, became the object of incessant reclamations on the part of the fortress authorities. But the Servian authorities, far from repressing them, answered in some cases by denials, in others by a refusal to prosecute the guilty; in others by saying that the delinquents could not be caught; in some instances that the complaint was not well-founded. In short, out of all this series of misdeeds, only one case has been the object of a partial reparation. And this is only owing to the energetic protests of the Austrian Consulate against the violation by Servian gendarmes of the Austrian steamer which was carrying the condemned Bosnians to their destination at Widdin.

Whilst on one side all the crimes were perpetrated by agents of the authorities, who have remained unpunished, on the other pretences were sought for to cry out loudly against the violation of privileges. Thus during the alarm caused by the murder of the Austrian Tatar, the officer of the guard at the Stamboul gate had the gate shut, in order to avoid a sanguinary quarrel. This circumstance became the object of a protest in which, without in the least taking into consideration the crime committed, a purely defensive line of action, evoked by the desire of preventing this new incident from assuming the greatest proportions, was qualified as an infraction of the immunities of Servia. They add, on this occasion, that the Servian Government is no longer responsible for the preservation of public tranquillity, and they seem thus to declare, to the astonishment of all, the town of Belgrade to be in a state of siege.

On the 11th Zilhijé (June 8, 1862), it is with a certain surprise and regret that Prince Michael is seen to depart from Belgrade, leaving the town at a moment when it was far from presenting a tranquillizing aspect, and when the agents appointed to make public order respected were putting themselves at the head of the populace to commit unheard-of atrocities. Immediately after the departure of His Highness, a report begins to be circulated and to gain consistence, that the object of his journey is to rouse men's minds to support the contest which was preparing. Speeches are attributed to the Prince in

which he declared to the deputations of villagers who came to meet him, that the Ottomans were on the point of attempting a rising; that the Servians should exercise themselves in the handling of arms in order to expel their enemies; that an opportunity was offered under the most favourable aspect for the Servians to gain new strength by showing entire submission to his orders during these critical circumstances,

The partizans of disorder inferred from this journey that the Prince did not wish to compromise himself by becoming directly responsible for any outbreak which might be at hand; at the same time he considered it necessary to unite the suffrages of the country people in favour of such an outbreak. It has even been affirmed that it was the conviction which was entertained that the Turks would not be able to defend themselves, whatever happened, which decided the Prince to leave the Princess his wife at Belgrade. The departure of His Highness, thus encouraging the agitators, already so emboldened, was closely followed by fresh crimes.

On the 13th Zilhidjé (June 10, 1862), some gendarmes fire without provocation on two Ottoman citizens near Stamboul Capou, without hitting them.

The Servian authorities make a point of protesting against Ottoman citizens bearing arms, whilst more than half the Servian population remained armed, and the Ottoman authorities had taken every means, under the guarantee of the notables, for preventing their fellow-citizens from bearing arms.

The best proof of this is, that, during all these murderous oppressions, no citizen has been able to defend himself with arms in his hand, and that no reprisal has been made by the citizens in spite of the impunity allowed to the guilty Servians.

On the 17th Zilhidjé (June 14, 1862), a young Servian grossly insults the corporal of the guard at Varouch Capou by accusing him of having torn the placard fixed on that gate. This young man assembles around him a multitude of Servians, who seek to provoke a quarrel, which the inoffensive attitude of the military was able to prevent.

The historical statement of the Servian Government carefully preserves the profoundest silence upon this long series of facts, with respect to each of which they have in vain been appealed to in the most pressing terms by the Ottoman authorities.

On the 18th Zilhidjé (June 15, 1862), a Jew hires a house in the Mussulman quarter. He constructs an oven in it. The neighbours naturally becoming frightened, apply to the proprietor of the house to make his tenant demolish the oven or quit the house which he had hired without a contract. The latter having refused, the proprietor makes several applications to the Turkish and Servian authorities, and after two months the said tenant consents to the demolition of his oven, and with this object he requests the assistance of two neighbours to take away the materials belonging to him, as his advanced age did not allow him to carry them himself. His neighbours answer to his call, and whilst they are carrying away the things, the Jew runs furtively to the Servian police to say that the inhabitants of the quarter are demolishing his oven by force. Some Servian agents, accompanied by the Dragoman Simeon and some gendarmes, arrive on the spot, where they are joined by the Mulazim Mustafa Agha, whom the Ottoman authorities sent there on their side, with two soldiers. The Dragoman asks one of the neighbours, named Ahmet, whether he was the author of this demolition, and whilst the latter was attempting to explain to him the motive of his presence, the said Dragoman orders the gendarmes to charge and to fire on the Mussulmans who were there. Thanks, however, to the intervention of Mustafa Agha, whom several Mussulmans and Jews had followed, no ill usage ensued. It is to be observed that the coolness with which Simeon ordered the gendarmes to load their arms, and the tone in which he uttered his threat to bring up other gendarmes, cause a suspicion of a criminal intention in him to raise a pretext for creating a disturbance, which was prevented by the inoffensive intervention of the Turkish officer, so much the more as everything favoured the presumption that the day would not pass without a new cause of quarrel, and in fact such did arise. The Dragoman Simeon thus found an opportunity for repeating his order to fire on the soldiers, an order which he kept continually giving.

On the 17th Zilhidjé (June 15, 1862), two hours after the above-mentioned incident, a Servian proceeds to Tchenour Tchéchémé, where five soldiers of the line were drawing water with their pitchers after having waited their turn. The Servian wishes to drive away the soldier, and pushes him violently against the wall. Another soldier interposes in the quarrel, and brings them both to the entrance of the fountain. Then some fifteen Servians and some women and children assemble, throw stones at the soldiers, strike them, and drive them off. Two soldiers take refuge in the Zaptié guard-house, and the others are pursued and wounded by the crowd, who attempt to drag them to the Servian police-station. The declaration of M. Garaschanin that Ottomans who were arrested should be conducted to the Servian police and be judged by their tribunals, is thus for the first time attempted to be acted upon.

In consequence of the alarm spread by Servians propagating a false report of the assassination of a child by Mussulmans at Tchoucour Tchéchémé (with respect to which the Servian authorities refused to open an inquiry), the same Dragoman Simeon with some gendarmes, and the Yuzbachi Ibrahim Agha with some soldiers, meet thirty paces from the Turkish guard-house (Zaptié). Ibrahim Agha invites the Servians to enter the guard-house to examine the matter. This very natural and legal invitation appears to have excited the wrath of the Dragoman Simeon, who attempted to conduct the Ottomans to the Servian station-house. Accordingly, Ibrahim Agha had hardly given the invitation, when Simeon draws his sabre and orders his acolytes to fire. One Turkish soldier is wounded, another killed, and their comrades in their own defence return the Servian fire. The Dragoman and two gendarmes receive the punishment they deserved for their aggression. The multitude being somewhat dispersed, the soldiers return to the guard-house. Then the gendarmes invite the Servians to go to the police and supply themselves with arms (ten days previously carts laden with munitions destined for the Servian gates had passed the Stamboul gate).

Either from the square or from the Servian station-house, which is situated on a height commanding the Turkish Zaptié, muskets loaded with bullets are fired at the soldiers. The Chief of the Police, Mustafa Effendi, assumes the defensive by shutting the door of the guard-house, and giving the order to fire on the assailants through the battlements, so as not to fall into the hands of this multitude over-excited by the gendarmes, who themselves pointed out each person's place, and at the same time showed the spots to which the fire was to be directed.

The Yuzbachi Ahmed Agha, head of the Stamboul Capou guard, shuts the gate upon being informed of the affair, and likewise assumes the defensive.

From this moment the Servians carry on the attack openly. At this critical instant the Ottomans confine themselves to shutting the gates in their own defence. The same day murders are committed on Mussulmans under the most atrocious circumstances. A Montenegrin gendarme, in front of the French Consulate, literally cuts to pieces an old fruit-seller, and another old man, tracked by the crowd, is massacred by them at his shop-door.

The sound of musket-shots brings the Consuls to the spot. They interfere to find means for stopping bloodshed. A stormy night succeeds, and spreads profound darkness over all. M. Garaschanin affirms that without bringing two companies of Servian Regulars into the faubourg to restrain the invaders, he cannot undertake to re-establish order and tranquillity. As this expedient can only be adopted by putting the Ottoman authority in communication with the Turkish authority, the English Consul, in spite of the perils of a very dark night, proceeds to the citadel, sees the Governor, and returns to the town with two letters, one of which he hands to M. Garaschanin; as to the second, addressed to the Chief of the Turkish Police, Mustafa Effendi, it becomes impossible to transmit it to its destination, in consequence of the attack against the Zaptié, which did not cease. The English Consul goes a second time to the fortress. During this interval, some gendarmes assemble a crowd of armed Servians, attack the guard-house of Varouch Capou, and that of Sava Capou, and make themselves masters thereof. The troops retire with the loss of a major, a sergeant, and five soldiers. The Mussulman population take refuge in the mosques, whilst one portion defend themselves in their houses. The Servians attack most of these houses, penetrate them by making holes in the roofs, and massacre forty-three men, three women who fall in their way, and they wound twenty-three others. But as part of the assailants give themselves up mostly to pillaging the houses surrounding Stamboul Capou, several Mussulmans succeed in taking refuge in the citadel with nothing but the clothes they were wearing. The General of Brigade, Edhem Pasha, rushes from his house towards the fortress in order to take the necessary measures. On his way he is pursued by gendarmes without his knowledge. His servant warns him of this, and as he is turning to make sure of it, he stumbles and falls. The gendarmes come up to him, and at the same moment the Prince's Dragoman and other persons arrive, recognize him, and deliver him out of the hands of his aggressors.

Seeing the proportions which the conflict is assuming, the authority of the fortress attempts to communicate with the Servian authority, and despatches Mucaýd Khalil Effendi and the Mulazim Mehemet Agha to M. Garaschanin. These messengers do not find him. The Yuzbachi of artillery, Suleyman Agha, and the Zaptié Bedjeb, leave the citadel in disguise to go to the English Consul's. They cannot get so far, as the attack on the gates of the faubourg prevent their passing them.

Then three companies of the line are sent to the Widdin gate, and towards the Bazaar. The first company, despatched to defend the Mussulman quarter, comes in contact with M. Garaschanin between the Turkish Zaptié, and the boundary of the faubourg. They inform him of their mission. M. Garaschanin sends them back by saying that they will run into

great danger if they venture into the Mussulman quarters. This company, whilst traversing the place d'armes, is exposed to a cross-fire coming from the side streets and the houses.

Major Mehemet Ali Agha and some soldiers are hit. The officer and the gendarmes, who had been ordered by M. Garaschanin to accompany him, join in the attack by firing on the company from behind, and then the troop composing it turns round, fires, and hits the officer who had so ignominiously betrayed it.

The two other companies having advanced up to the faubourg gates, the Mussulmans at sight of them take a little courage, and in the middle of this dark night begin to move their families towards the fortress. The pillage, the firing, and the burning complete the fright and misery of this multitude of women, children, and old men, who a little before were in possession of prosperity, compared with that terrible moment when they had lost house, fortune, parents, friends, and had only been able to save the clothes they had upon them!! It was at this moment that the English Consul penetrated into the fortress for the second time; there was again a question of the provisional entry of two regular Servian companies into the faubourg, in order to re-establish order, and of the withdrawal, likewise provisional, into the fortress, under the guarantee of M. Garaschanin, of the troops and citizens shut up in the Turkish police-station, in the mosques, and at the Stamboul gate; the English Consul returns to the town, and comes back to the citadel two hours after midnight, accompanied by his colleagues of the other Powers and by M. Garaschanin. During the deliberation held in the apartments of the General of Brigade, Edhem Pasha, situated in the centre of the citadel, the walls are struck by a hail of bullets. M. Garaschanin despatches several times an order to cease firing.

On the 19th Zilhidjé (June 16, 1862), in a word, the terms of a provisional arrangement are adopted. The safety of the troops is guaranteed by M. Garaschanin till they have been withdrawn into the fortress. The houses and property of the Mussulmans residing in the faubourg are equally insured, and those of the inhabitants who had not abandoned their dwellings are to be efficaciously protected. This arrangement is signed by Achir Pasha, M. Garaschanin, and all the Consuls, the questions of right being reserved.

At sunrise, M. Garaschanin and the Consuls proceed towards the faubourg to stop the firing and the pillage. They dispatch orderly officers, accompanied by gendarmes, to the Zaptié, to the Stamboul Gate, and to Deort-yol, to announce the cessation of hostilities. The Consuls take measures for the withdrawal of the troops and the citizens shut up in the mosques, the houses, and the shops situated in the neighbourhood of the Stamboul Gate, and to have the hideously mutilated dead bodies of women and children removed. Passing by the Stamboul Gate, they observe that it is filled with bells, and that the troop still reserves its important life machine. The point of the evacuation being once gained, the authors of this horrible carnage began to concert other plans, the object of which was nothing less than to take the citadel by surprise. The two companies of regular Servians are introduced into the citadel under the pretence of the village troops posted in ambush in the Jews' quarter near the Danube. M. Cristich publishes an official Proclamation, which is followed by pillage, commencing at daylight only in the Deort-yol quarter, and becoming general towards 10 o'clock, all over the faubourg, and even to the citadel. The arrangement had been signed, and the citadel, reading the accompanying order, sent by M. Garaschanin. The Jews' quarter shares the same fate. Several houses, both at Deort-yol and the Widdin Gate, and behind the Zaptié, are set on fire. The pillagers carry off their booty under the very eyes of the Servian authorities. There were among them several hundred gendarmes and pandours. This circumstance proves that the only measure taken was to occupy the faubourg militarily, without thinking particularly of the means of protecting the property of Mussulmans.

It was only at noon that gendarmes are sent to snatch the booty from the hands of those who passed near the police-station. These objects are piled up near the Russian Consulate. The authorities of the citadel claim them, but the answer is that they can not yet be restored to their owners, who had for the most part taken refuge in the citadel with nothing but their shirts to cover themselves with for the night.

The fugitives in the Deftendar mosque are defended for five hours by Artillery Paymaster Mahmoud Effendi. They are taken care of till morning by an old Servian officer, moved by a feeling of humanity at the sight of so many disarmed creatures, threatened with an atrocious massacre.

At noon, on the report of a pretended attack on the citadel, propagated by the Servians, Mr. Longworth proceeds thither. He goes all over it. He addresses some words of consolation to the fugitives, who were exasperated at the sight of their burning and pillaged houses.

The death of a soldier, struck on the rampart by one of the projectiles which some gendarmes posted on the side of the Save had been continually throwing into the square

since the morning, increases the uneasiness, and yet the orders of the authorities are respectfully listened to and executed by the fugitives. Still, a previous circumstance had with reason shaken their confidence, and made it difficult for them to remain calm. The fact is as follows : Some twenty days before the breaking out of hostilities, these fugitives had proceeded to the Mehkémé and to the Council in order to communicate their apprehensions of an approaching attack, the secret of which had been designedly divulged by certain Servians, partizans of disorder. With this object they had requested permission to bring their families and property into the citadel. The authorities dissipated their fears by the assurance that tranquillity would not be disturbed for an instant, and they persuaded them of the uselessness of such precautions by advising them to avoid answering any new provocations which might be attempted in order to produce such a disturbance. So that these unfortunate people, only just saved from certain death, reduced to the last state of misery, no longer dared to believe themselves in safety even in the fortress.

Things were in this state when, in the afternoon, a report of an attack on the citadel was circulated for the second time. The English Consul, who had proceeded thither, assures himself personally that no disposition of the military confirmed this rumour. He only remarks among the fugitives a lively but just feeling of indignation. Achir Pasha in his conversation with Mr. Longworth declares to him that he will only employ force if provoked and forced to do so by the Servians. He adds that the removal of the Servian families made him foresee an approaching attack on the citadel. This declaration is repeated to the Austrian Consul, who penetrated into the fortress just after the return of Mr. Longworth. Achir Pasha conveys, by means of M. Wassitch, conventional signal-lanterns to M. Garaschanin, that he may put himself into communication with the Servian authorities at night, in case of need. This very important precautionary measure closes the events of the day of Monday.

About one hour (Turkish time) after sunset some Servians posted in the houses and shops situated thirty paces from the gates of Widdin and Caranlik are the first to begin firing. This firing only ceases at 4 o'clock in the morning, and it increases so much on all sides that Achir Pasha makes use of the signal for stopping the attack. He repeats it several times, but M. Garaschanin gives no answer.

The assailants become more numerous before the Widdin gate towards the morning. These sharpshooters debouch on the side of the church, where a great quantity of scaling materials is piled up. The lantern again hoisted remains without answer. What else could the Ottoman authorities think than that a snare was being laid ?

On the 20th Zilhijé (June 17, 1862), Achir Pasha, uneasy at M. Garaschanin's silence, sends Mahmoud Effendi to him at 7 o'clock in the morning, preceded by a person carrying a parliamentary flag, to request him, as well as the Consuls, to proceed to the citadel. The Council and the notables are likewise convoked.

Whilst a telegram is being drawn up to announce the despatch of a messenger to Constantinople a tremendous shouting interrupts the deliberations. Every one in the citadel runs to the Widdin gate, the grating of which had just been forced, and a few moments afterwards the cries are repeated on the side of the Stamboul gate. It is announced that the Servians are coming up to the assault. The Governor and the officers rush to the battlements and perceive that more than 1,000 Servian regulars, gendarmes, and irregulars are actually advancing on Widdin Capou, from within the faubourg, and that the Stamboul gate is assailed by 1,500 others ; that gendarmes are occupying the minarets, and that others, mixed with the people, were posted on the place d'armes, and were guarding the space comprised between the Stamboul gate and the Save, having before them, towards the church, a mixed body of Servian gendarmes and irregulars. Another body of regulars and irregulars had also taken position before Caranlik Capou. During this aggressive movement guns were brought from the side of the Bazar Yéri and of Varouch Capou, howitzers were pointed on the side of the church and at the head of the street of Bayrakli Djami.

The firing was developed considerably ; the splinters of a bomb fell on the side of the citadel mosque, and another thrown from the neighbourhood of the church burst in the air between the military hospital and the Widdin gate. Mahmoud Effendi did not reappear, although an hour and a quarter had elapsed since his departure, he and his companion having been killed by the gendarmes. The Mulazim Moustafa Agha is wounded on the Deirmen rampart, and this incident renews the grief of those fugitives whose wives or parents had been massacred before their eyes on the previous day. They are warned by shouts to retire from the fortress ; in spite of the signals, the invaders do not cease advancing. The Council then decides unanimously to make the assailants retire by musket-shots. The latter, amongst whom the sharpshooters are recognized by the collars of their uniforms, without slackening their pace or their fire, approach nearer to the gates of the citadel. Urged by the conviction that the fortress is not allowed to use its artillery, a

conviction which was stimulating their audacity and arrogance, they venture within a short distance of the ramparts in the hope of getting possession of them by a bold *coup de main*. On another side a body of regulars proceed at quick march towards the church, where barricades had been raised. The Council deliberates as to using the guns. Officers are despatched to the battlements to observe the progress of the attack, and return to announce the necessity of making a defence. Towards half-past 8 in the morning two guns, loaded with powder, are fired at an interval from the fortifications of the Stamboul gate, and the flags are hoisted. Neither does this warning stop the fire of the Servians, who penetrate even into the ditches. The fortress was so little prepared, and had so little intention of bombarding the town at this critical moment, that the drawbridges had not been brought, nor the gates well closed. The result, therefore, was that the Servians might have invaded the citadel if the progress of their attack had not been opposed by the artillery. They are thus driven from the Widdin gate by the guns fired from the lower battery, whilst the upper battery of the Stamboul gate and that of Caranlik Capou directed their fire on the place d'armes and the Save. The Servians, therefore, give up the attack, abandon the approaches of the citadel in the next quarter of an hour, and entrench themselves in the surrounding houses.

The Consuls could not know all the circumstances which had occurred during the night. They could not be informed either of the obstinate silence which had been observed with respect to the signals of distress from the citadel, nor of the delay of nearly two hours of the bearer of the flag of truce, whose dreadful fate was unknown. They could, therefore, only draw up their protest under the impression of the moment, and on the report of one side, without having had time to listen to the other. An equitable and just judgment can only be pronounced by taking equally into consideration all the circumstances which brought about the actual result. The conviction which was kept up in the minds of the actors in the horrible carnage which had just deluged the town of Belgrade in blood, that whatever might happen, and in spite of the arrangement signed and accepted on either side, they could fire on the Turks without the latter having the right to defend themselves, was sufficient of itself to determine them to accomplish the work they were meditating.

From this conviction it was inferred that it was allowable for the Servian engineers and Agents to study the ground near the fortress on a height commanding the cemetery, with the view to form an intrenchment and a regular cordon of siege around the faubourg; to keep ready thousands of fascines and ladders, the former for filling the ditches, the latter for scaling the walls; to buy in the shops every disposable steel bar, to transform them into engines of war, and distribute them to the people; to proclaim that Bosnia, Bulgaria, and Wallachia were awaiting the result of this movement at Belgrade to join it in their turn; to form several armed bands, commanded by Servian officers; to keep encamped along the River Drin 8,000 men, with 8 guns; to distribute along the banks of the Save, from Varza to Mitroviza, armed bands of villagers, who commenced operations by the capture of an Ottoman vessel laden with iron, and by the assassination of the Mussulman proprietors; to establish *corps de garde* in face of the fortress and make them mounted by day by from ten to twenty individuals, and to fill them with considerable bands during the night; to point 10 guns and 2 howitzers in the faubourg against the fortress; to have the muskets of the populace inspected, in order to replace those which might be worn out, and to invite them to supply themselves with cartridges at the Servian police-station, at 60 paras a-piece. Taking into consideration all these circumstances, which prove premeditated provocations and means of attack prepared and collected some time previously, the authorities cannot be made responsible, as their case was that of legitimate defence.

Can a single functionary, or a single military officer in the world be found, who could allow thousands of human beings confided to his care to be immolated before his eyes, and could permit an attack to be carried out against the fortress which is intrusted to his defence, before having exhausted all the means in his power for preventing it? Such a man, if he existed, would be the greatest of traitors, and would deserve the execration of the entire universe. If some formalities could not be observed by the Ottomans, what ought one not to reproach the Servians with during all these collisions? The only warning of their attack given by the assailants to the fortress being by a most violent fusilade, could the strong castle fix a period of delay and remain silent under an assault until the expiration of that period? This delay depended upon the execution of the arrangement; it expired with the violation of the engagements entered into by M. Garaschanin. The moment the pillage, the burning, the fusilade, and the attacks upon the fortress continued after the signing of the arrangement which included large concessions on the part of the Ottoman authorities, in so far as they abandoned provisionally to the Servians the faubourg situated within the precincts of the citadel, these authorities had a perfect right to employ

the forces at their disposal as a means of defeating the results of the non-execution of the said arrangement,—non-execution which could but put a stop to their inaction. To whom, then, could the fault be attributed except to the Servian conspirators? The Servian historical statement only commences with the incident of June $\frac{3}{15}$; it places all the phases which followed in a point of view little in conformity with the exact truth. When reading this document one asks why, to adopt its numbers, these 26 Servians were killed and 22 others wounded?

Did they not know, by accident, that the corpses of Mussulmans, in great numbers, were also lying in the streets? We will fill up this gap. The loss of the Ottomans was 71 killed and 47 wounded; the killed being 2 officers, 3 serjeants, 9 soldiers, and 57 citizens, women, and children; and the wounded, 12 soldiers, 35 citizens. On the other side, to justify the provocations and their conduct, the authors of the events in question try to refer the cause to the delay in the solution of the points relative to the police of the faubourg. This question, which, according to the Servian point of view, could only be founded upon the complete abandonment of the faubourg, and, consequently, the violation of the Hatti-Sheriff of 1833, to the detriment of the Porte, was not necessarily to be settled according to their good pleasure. We have quoted above the conciliatory measures which the Sublime Porte hastened to offer, in order to efface the so-called subjects of dispute which had been mooted. Would it be logical to think that the Ottoman Government ought to hasten to give up rights acquired *ab antiquo*, and consecrated by solemn Acts? By an interchange of position M. Garaschanin makes a complaint in his note of the 18th of June, by affirming that the result of the series of lamentable conflicts provoked at Belgrade had no motive, and he demands that a resolution should be taken in favour of Servia, which would render similar calamities impossible for the future. His demand implies nothing less than an appeal to the good nature of the suzerain and guaranteeing Courts to give an international consecration to the disorderly scenes which have just occurred.

Every occasion is seized for advancing the singular pretension of having a complete right to strengthen their own means for attacking the fortresses of the Sultan, and to interrupt all communication between them, without the Sublime Porte being able to come to their aid.

One would hesitate in believing such requirements, if they were not to be seen expressed in an official note dated July 8, and signed by M. Garaschanin himself; a note which is destined to serve as a protest against the appearance in the Danube of a steamer of the Imperial Marine: whilst the Servian Government have assembled and continue to assemble from the interior to Belgrade, with flying banners, an infinity of armed bands, and other means of aggression.

In conclusion, it is established by the inquiry made by Ahmed Vefyk Effendi, the details of which are mentioned above, that the Servians have committed the gravest aggressions on a large scale; that murderous provocations have been transformed into open attacks which placed the Ottoman garrison under the painful necessity of repelling them by using their artillery; that a long series of circumstances justify the extreme resolution taken by Achir Pasha; that the situation to which the Ottoman authorities have found themselves reduced for more than four months, and the non-execution of the arrangement of the 16th of June, justify the defence of the fortress against the hostilities which came so violently from without.

The Sublime Porte hastens to submit all these authentic details to the equitable and impartial appreciation of her august allies. She is persuaded that they will have the goodness to devote to them their kind and serious attention.

No. 35.

Consul-General Longworth to Earl Russell.—(Received August 11.)

My Lord,

Belgrade, August 2, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 23rd ultimo, and in pursuance of the instructions therein contained I have duly forwarded to Prince Michael Obrenovitch your Lordship's answer to the letter of His Highness, inclosed in my despatch of the 12th instant. Although I have lately had the opportunity of an interview with M. Garaschanin, yet that gentleman preserved a strict silence as to the letter in question.

It is, however, to be hoped that your Lordship's suggestions will have a salutary effect, and tend to check the pretensions of the Prince at the present moment.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. A. LONGWORTH.

Sir H. Bulwer to Earl Russell.—(Received August 15.)

Extract.)

Constantinople, August 6, 1862.

I THINK it as well to state in a few words the state of the Servian question.

By the prescriptions of 1833 the extent of the fortress comprised the faubourg as far as the old wall and gates extend; and it was determined that the Turks should inhabit this quarter, but that they should allow the Servians to do so also. As no other prescription ever set this aside it existed at the time of the Treaty of Paris, which confirmed the then existing state of things in Servia.

The Servians are now in possession of the whole of the faubourg, and have barricades and sentries up to the walls of the citadel; not because the Turks could not expel them, but because they do not wish to engage in a contest for their rights if it can be avoided.

By the Memorandum given in to the Porte by M. Garaschanin, previous to recent events, all that the Servians demanded as their only grievance, and in order to insure perfect tranquillity and contentment, was; that the Turks should be withdrawn from their intermixture with the Servians in the faubourg.

This demand was expressly inverting the order of things established in 1833, because it was not the Turks who were then allowed to inhabit with the Servians in the faubourg, but the Servians who were allowed to inhabit with the Turks. Nevertheless, it was sufficiently evident that the two populations could not, without constant chances of quarrel, inhabit it together.

By all the Treaties and arrangements made up to this period the citadel of Belgrade and the fortresses now in the hands of the Turks were to be held by the Turks.

The only grievance which the Servians complained of six months ago would be redressed by the withdrawal of the Turks from the faubourg, on the sole condition that the citadel, which there never was a question until now of surrendering to the Servians, should be placed in tolerable security by a rayon or esplanade, and any two or three works within that esplanade necessary for its defence.

This rayon would be principally formed by the destruction of Turkish houses, very few Servian houses coming within it. So in regard to the five smaller fortresses, all of which the Turks have a right by Treaty to keep, two within the Servian territory are to be destroyed; three on the Save and Danube, judged necessary for the defence of the frontier and fortress, are to be kept.

Your Lordship may judge from this statement as to whether the proposal is reasonable and just, and conciliatory to the Servians.

With respect to the bombardment, it is impossible to determine with accuracy who is most to blame, the Servian people in the town, or the Turkish authorities in the citadel. Conflicting statements lead to different conclusions. This, however, may be said fairly. The Servians, by a series of measures, brought on a state of feeling which led to the first contest and the withdrawal of the Turkish troops within their citadel. That citadel was evidently subjected to an assault, not perhaps serious, but which the Governor might, under the circumstances, have considered serious. But if fault there was, it rested solely with him, for the Turkish Government, on the first news of the bombardment, ordered its cessation and dismissed the Governor, even without inquiry as to the circumstances; which inquiry, somewhat illogically, but from motives of conciliation and humanity, it said should take place subsequently.

On these facts is it, or is it not, just to establish any theory which rests upon the presumption that the Porte either prepared or sanctioned the bombardment, or is likely at any future time to order a bombardment without necessity?

To sum up.

The Turks have a right by Treaty to inhabit the faubourg. The Servians said their only grievance was that the Turks exercised this right. The Turks now resign it.

The Turks have the undoubted right to the citadel; all they require is to keep the citadel in tolerable security, which, if they give up the faubourg, can only be done by having an open space between it and the fortress, which open space will be formed mainly by the destruction of Turkish houses.

The Turks have by Treaty a right to five fortresses; they give up two out of the five.

Thus all the concessions are on the part of Turkey; and it is to be added, that it is not from weakness that the Turks make these concessions, because if they and the Servians were to be left to fight out the affair between themselves, the Servians would most probably be more easily subdued than the Montenegrins.

No. 37.

Consul-General Longworth to Earl Russell.—(Received August 18.)

My Lord,

Belgrade, August 8, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith inclosed to your Lordship, the copy of a despatch under date of the 7th August, and addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, relative to an extension of the rayon of the fortress of Belgrade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. A. LONGWORTH.

Inclosure 1 in No. 37.

Consul-General Longworth to Sir H. Bulwer.

Sir,

Belgrade, August 7, 1862.

IN coming to any definitive arrangement with respect to the rayon of the fortress, I apprehend that more precise local information will be required than is at present available at Constantinople.

No very definite idea is conveyed by the phrase "Turkish quarter" unless it be that where the Turks chiefly reside. It is, indeed, divided and mixed up with the Jewish quarter, consisting of 236 houses and shops. Turkish houses are extensively scattered in almost all parts of the town, including those of which Turks are proprietors, as well as those occupied by them. They amount to nearly half of the whole number within the walls.

I send your Excellency, herewith inclosed, a statement showing the relative number of the houses and shops belonging to Mussulmans, Servians, and Jews.

The line which would appear, by the configuration of the town itself, to be most obviously indicated for the rayon, is the street in which the Cathedral is situated. It is true that the Church itself would, by this arrangement, be left within the enceinte of the fortress, and it must be allowed to remain there; but the inconvenience should, in view of more important considerations, be overlooked.

The street in question intersects the town in a straight line, extending almost from the Save to the Danube, opposite the fortress. Independent of the Church, a few Servian houses, of which not more than four or five are of any considerable size, would have to be abandoned by the Servians. But compensation might be made to them in the shape of Turkish houses far more favourably situated in other parts of the town.

The least distance which a fortress situate as Belgrade is ought to possess is a rayon of 800 yards. Now as the line which I have above indicated would not, along the immediate front of the fortress, certainly exceed 250 yards, surely the Servians can have little just cause for complaining against any such proposal. Any objection which might be raised against such an arrangement would, I am certain, not proceed from individuals interested in it, but from the Servian Government, who, it is easy to see, are little disposed to consent to any plan which may lead to a permanent settlement of the questions at issue. If they cannot obtain all they seek at present, and which is neither more nor less than the cession or demolition of the fortress, the object which they have next at heart, and which is ill disguised either by them or their advisers, is so to arrange matters as to increase and not diminish the chances of future collision.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. A. LONGWORTH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 37.

STATEMENT showing the relative Number of Houses and Shops belonging to Mussulmans, Servians, and Jews, in the Turkish Quarter of Belgrade.

Houses, Mussulman, of which several are let to Servians	..	..	..	730
Ditto, shops	..	..	..	317
				1,047
Jewish houses in the Turkish quarter	..	..	..	190
Shops	..	..	..	46
Gipsies	..	..	..	3
				1,286
Houses belonging to Roumelists called Servians, and some Servians	..	..	..	364
Shops	..	..	..	478
				2,128

Outside the varosch, or town, the Mussulmans possess some 30 houses (or property).

Earl Russell to Sir H. Bulwer.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, August 23, 1862.

HER Majesty's Government entirely approve of your conduct in the Conference.

The limit of the amount of the militia or military force to be maintained by the Servian Government to 12,000 men is the only guarantee for Turkey not authorized expressly by Treaty. But the provision made by the Ustave which regulates this matter, that Servia should only maintain the number necessary to preserve internal tranquillity, and the necessity of having the sanction of the Senate, sufficiently show that the late increase of the Servian force to 50,000 men is a violation of the spirit of the arrangements by which Servia is united to Turkey.

As to the argument of the Russian Ambassador that the Turkish Governor has no right to resort to a bombardment without the sanction of the Great Powers, it is absurd.

As well might it be contended that the Russian Governor of Warsaw has no right to fire from the citadel if attacked by the Poles, unless the Great Powers should have previously consented.

The Russian Government is bound by the Treaty of Vienna in regard to Poland, as the Turkish Government is bound by the Treaty of Paris in regard to Servia.

You should endeavour, as soon as possible, to come to a practical agreement, and put a stop to the excitement now prevailing in Servia.

The Porte, in its own interest, is prudent in making some sacrifice to obtain immediate tranquillity.

Earl Russell to Mr. Lumley.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, August 25, 1862.

I HAVE had an interesting conversation with Baron Brunnow on the affairs of Servia.

He reminded me that M. Thouvenel had said when in London that we must take into consideration the interests of Turkey, but not her *amour propre*, and that I had replied, "We must not humiliate Turkey."

He, Baron Brunnow, had agreed with M. Thouvenel when he said that Belgrade was of no use to Turkey; that a Turkish fortress in that city offended the Servians, and gave no strength to the Porte. But as the Treaty of Paris gave to Turkey the fortress of Belgrade, the Great Powers, M. Thouvenel said, could not oppose, in this respect, the wishes of the Sultan's Government.

I said that the same argument held good as to the other fortresses alluded to in the Treaty, possessed by the Porte. That it seemed natural that Turkey should wish to preserve the ancient fortresses on her frontier. She had now friendly relations with Austria, but those friendly relations might some day be changed into hostility, and, in that case, if she lost the fortresses on the Danube and the Save, the door of her Empire would be open. I could not wonder, therefore, that, while abandoning two useless forts, the Porte desired to hold the fortress of Belgrade, and the three other places which she proposed to retain. But, I said, the question of Servia had a much wider scope. The Russian Government had often complained of the ill-treatment of the Christian subjects of the Sultan in Bulgaria and other provinces of European Turkey. But no such question could arise in Servia. The Prince of Servia and his people had complete powers of self-government. The Sultan had not attempted, and had no wish to attempt, to infringe the privileges of the Servians as enumerated in Treaties. The only power he exercised was, to occupy certain fortresses as defensive barriers of his Empire, as securities for its integrity and independence. The only question that could arise, therefore, was as to the mode of preventing or punishing collisions between the Turks inhabiting Servian towns and the Servian population.

The Servians had proposed to effect this by subjecting the Turks out of the garrisons to Servian tribunals. The Turkish Government had acted with carelessness and apathy in regard to this proposal, which appeared to Her Majesty's Government fair and reasonable. But the Sultan now proposed to withdraw all Turkish inhabitants from places not contained in the fortresses, and this proposal would effect the object desired by the Servians, and would remove the only real grievance of which the Servians could complain.

But, I went on to say, the Great Powers would deceive themselves if they supposed that the Servians would now be satisfied with any reasonable concessions, or that they would be at all conciliated by the removal of their real grievances. Their objects were very different. They aimed at independence. They were, at the same time, conscious that the independence of Serbia as a separate State would be a mere name. Therefore, they aspired to form one of a great Confederacy of the Danube, which, under Republican forms, was to rise from the ruins of surrounding Empires. Turkey was not indifferent to this danger; Austria was not indifferent to it; Russia ought not to be indifferent to it.

Her Majesty's Government then came to the conclusion that it was not the interest of any of the Great Powers to favour this democratic movement. Its objects and its means were totally different from the objects and the means of constitutional monarchy, and portended far different results.

Baron Brunnow agreed in much that I had said, but remarked that a policy of conciliation on the part of the Porte was calculated to diminish and remove the dangers of which I had spoken.

In this sentiment I concurred, and I trust that the Government of the Emperor of Russia will not differ in spirit and intention from that of Her Majesty.

You may read this despatch to Prince Gortchakoff.

No. 40.

Earl Cowley to Earl Russell.—(Received September 13.)

My Lord,

Paris, September, 12, 1862.

M. THOUVENEL expresses himself as satisfied, on the whole, with the arrangements respecting Belgrade. The moral guarantee given by the Porte against any renewal of the bombardment of that town by the communication to the Representatives of the great Powers of the instructions to be given to the Turkish Governor of the fortress ought, his Excellency thinks, to be sufficient to allay the fears of the Servians.

I said that there were some important questions still left open, and which had yet to be arranged between the Turks and Servians, and that I trusted that the French Agents would be instructed to use their endeavours to facilitate that arrangement. M. Thouvenel replied that he presumed the Representatives of the great Powers would send identical instructions to the Consuls at Belgrade with reference to these questions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) COWLEY.

No. 41.

Mr. Lumley to Earl Russell.—(Received September 14.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, September 10, 1862.

WHEN I read to Prince Gortchakoff your despatch of the 25th ultimo, recounting a conversation between Baron Brunnow and yourself, he acquiesced in nearly every observation it contained until I came to the words "and therefore the Servians aspired to form part of a great Confederacy of the Danube, which, under Republican forms, was to rise from the ruins of surrounding Empires."

What ground has your Government for supposing that Serbia has such designs? asked Prince Gortchakoff.

I replied, that the Servians made no secret of their desire to be independent of the Porte; and that, as to their desire to form part of a Democratic Confederacy, I thought his Excellency would find sufficient proof of that in the programme for a Confederation of the Basin of the Danube which I had left with him a few days ago.

That, said Prince Gortchakoff, is no proof whatever; at all events, not one upon which such an assertion can be made as that contained in your Lordship's despatch. You might as well say, because a plan for a Slavonic Republic was found on Bakunin, that the Russian Government are imbued with Republican ideas; or that, because some Poles are known to be connected with Mazzini and others of that class, their vagaries should be placed to the account of the Russian Government. You may assure your Government that we favour no Democratic movement, and that we are not indifferent to the danger arising from the wild and visionary schemes of the Republican party. What we want is, an amelioration of the condition of the Christians in the Turkish Provinces, and we desire nothing more than that such an amelioration should come from the Sovereign.

I said I had reason to believe that the Christians in Montenegro were beginning to see, though unfortunately too late, that they would have done better to follow our counsels than those of France and Russia; that the language used by Prince Nicolas, in speaking of the two countries to whom he had looked for support, was most abusive.

Prince Gortchakoff said he had received no such accounts, and his Excellency then asked me what our counsels had been, but before I could answer he added, "I suppose you mean entire submission to the despotic will of the Porte." I said the Montenegrins, even under such terms, would be in a far better position, materially speaking, than they now are. "As to that," Prince Gortchakoff said, "it was not to be expected that a brave and enterprising race who had always enjoyed a *de facto* independence could submit to Ottoman rule and oppression."

In conclusion, I said it would be a dreadful thing if a similar calamity befell the Servians; that I hoped they would profit by the experience of their neighbours. His Excellency said the news he had lately received from Constantinople induced him to believe that the Conferences were in a fair way of producing a good result; for although at one time a rupture seemed inevitable, the difficulties had been removed, and he believed the next news from Constantinople would be of a more satisfactory character than any that had yet been received. The next point would be to endeavour to show the Servians that the best terms that could be obtained under the circumstances had been procured for them, but this he feared would be a difficult task.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. SAVILE LUMLEY.

No. 42.

Sir H. Bulwer to Earl Russell.—(Received September 26.)

(Extract.)

Constantinople, September 11, 1862.

IT may be convenient to your Lordship that I should resume, in as short a space as possible, the history of the negotiations now terminated.

We found affairs in this condition at the commencement of the Conferences:—

The Treaty of Paris of 1856 had declared the state of things then existing in Belgrade should be maintained; the state of things then existing was regulated by the Ustave of 1837. This Ustave divided the faubourg of Belgrade to the Turk, allowing the Servians to reside there; each party, Turks and Servians, being under a mixed jurisdiction. But the gates of the wall which bounded the faubourg—this faubourg being, in reality, a space of ground between the citadel and the town in which the garrison, when composed of Janissaries, resided—were to be held by the Turks, as a sign that they were the rightful possessors and controllers of the same. The Servians, however, had, in a recent tumult, got possession of the said walls, and also of the whole faubourg, and the Turks who might easily have recaptured what had been seized by surprise, had preferred laying the case before the Porte, who were parties to the Treaty of Paris, to having recourse to force, which would have been the occasion of much present slaughter and future animosity.

When the Conferences opened, therefore, the position of the Turks entitled them to claim, in virtue of Treaty engagements, what, contrary to such engagements, they had been deprived of.

It appeared to me that the ground taken up by both parties was an extreme one: and I should add, that the Turkish Ministers themselves were fully aware that they could no longer peaceably obtain or peaceably preserve the old state of things at Belgrade.

The Porte had, no doubt, legality on its side; but though it had a right to the faubourg and its gates, and its share in the mixed jurisdiction, which prevailed in the former, the maintenance of that right was attended by great embarrassments, and procured little advantage.

The fact, indeed, is, that if the Porte had meant to retain the faubourg and its gates, it should not have admitted a large influx of Servian population within them. What was formerly a Turkish village had become, in a great degree, a Servian town; the admixture of two discordant populations produced frequent disputes and conflicts; and the posting of a few Turkish sentinels away from the garrison, and in the midst of an ill-disposed and quarrelsome population, appeared, in time of tranquillity, an idle boast of supremacy, and in times of trouble could only be a cause of danger to those sentries, and embarrassment to the Governor of the fortress.

I was therefore for waiving all contest in a question respecting which victory would have been of little practical advantage, and conceding with a good grace on a point which the Servian Government had declared, just previous to the recent events, to furnish them the only grievance and their only difficulty with the Porte.

The Turks might, it is true, have remained in the faubourg under Servian jurisdiction, but they would always have believed they were unjustly treated, which would have furnished constant motives of crimination and recrimination, and, moreover, the Porte, as the Suzerain Power, would, I knew, feel humiliated at her Mussulman subjects being under Servian jurisdiction.

It seemed to me, consequently, better and easier to provide for withdrawing altogether the one people from the other. Moreover, with respect to the five remaining fortresses in the hands of the Turks, the Porte was bound by pre-existing Treaties, which it had not as yet scrupulously fulfilled, and was now called upon to fulfil, to have the property of all Mussulman proprietors in Servia sold, and to withdraw all Mussulmans from Servia, except such as were in the fortresses, the faubourg of Belgrade being alone excepted from the general rule.

But the manner in which the two fortresses which were in the interior were maintained was by a sort of militia possessing lands round the fortresses, and who subsisted on the produce of these lands. The taking away of these lands, and not permitting a garrison to reside on or cultivate them was, in fact, making that garrison entirely dependent for subsistence on the surrounding population, and bringing that population into constant contact. Two weak forts, moreover, in the heart of the country, and weakly garrisoned, could be of no real use to the Turks under any combination of circumstances. It was, consequently, an act of grace to the Servians to destroy such forts, and it would be a decision entirely useless to the Turks to retain them. I recommended, therefore, they should be destroyed. But the three remaining fortresses situated on rivers could easily be garrisoned, victualled, and defended; and formed, it may be said, part of the defence of the citadel of Belgrade itself. It seemed to me, then, impossible to ask the Turks to give up these three fortresses, if the fortress of Belgrade was not to be given up also; whilst as to giving up the fortress of Belgrade I could see no possible ground on which such a surrender could be thought of, except on the avowed ground of weakening the Turkish Empire, which Empire both we and the other Powers now appealed to had engaged to maintain.

Again, that fortress would be placed in great jeopardy if houses now immediately adjoining it, and held by Mussulmans, were given up to the Servians. I thought it fair, therefore, that, as a condition of the Turks withdrawing from the faubourg in general, a rayon, or esplanade, should be added to the citadel; first, because it was necessary for the defence of the citadel; and, secondly, because it was necessary to maintain that separation between the two populations which seemed alone likely to prevent conflict.

On these ideas was founded a project produced by me at the third Conference, July 31st. This project contained the withdrawal of the Turks on the principle of compensation for their property from the faubourg of Belgrade, the formation of a rayon round the citadel, and an indemnity to the Turks who, on retiring into the fortress during the tumult I have alluded to, had had their houses pillaged, notwithstanding a guarantee for their safety and inviolability of their property given by the Servian Government. It contained, also, a provision for limiting the number of the Servian militia.

The cause of the last provision arose from the following circumstance: the Servian Constitution declared the Servians were only to keep a force necessary for the maintenance of the internal tranquillity of the country, but the number of this force was to be decided by the Servian Senate. The reigning Prince, however, on his accession, set aside the old Senate, which had certain independent powers which the Ottoman Government was entitled to maintain for them, and appointed in its stead a Senate which was altogether subservient to himself, and at the same time passed a law which subjected the whole male population of Servia to military service, adopting a variety of regulations rather suited for the large army of an independent State than for a vassal Principality which had to look for its external defence to the Suzerain Power, and had merely to provide for its internal tranquillity. Such a state of things naturally created disquietude in Turkey, and necessitated a large Turkish force on the Servian frontiers.

It is needless to say that to leave these things without opening the way at least to their more satisfactory arrangement was leaving a cause of constant and mutual apprehension, if not of actual hostility; I therefore proposed limiting the Servian force.

Finally, we arrived at the composition of a Protocol which is, I think, upon the whole, and under all the difficulties that the Porte has had to contend against, satisfactory.

With respect to the disposition of the cannon on the ramparts of the citadel, the course which should be pursued in the event of the bombardment, these points are regulated by instructions to the Governor, which are drawn up in the sense of my observations in the memoir read by me on the 2nd of September.

As my object has not been to gain a victory for one of the parties, but to propose an

arrangement which might be considered fair for the two, I have readily accepted every mode of expression that could be agreeable to Servia without being irritating or humiliating to Turkey, and advised the latter to do everything she could to satisfy the former without weakening or degrading herself.

I have now to inclose a copy of the Protocol which has been signed by the Representatives of the different Powers, and is only waiting the signature of the Ministers of the Porte, who must first lay it before the Sultan.

I suppose that His Imperial Majesty's assent will be given within two or three days from this time.

P.S.—I transmit with the Protocol a copy of the instructions addressed to the Governor of the fortress.

Inclosure 1 in No. 42.

Protocol of a Conference held at Constantinople, September 4, 1862.

LES événements dont la Principauté de Serbie a été dernièrement le théâtre ayant engagé la Sublime Porte à réunir en Conférence les Représentants des Puissances signataires du Traité de Paris, ceux-ci, désireux d'écarter avant tout les sources nouvelles d'irritation, ont cru devoir s'abstenir de soumettre à une investigation minutieuse les causes immédiates de ces incidents regrettables. Ils se sont donc bornés à constater que le rétablissement de rapports confiants et bienveillants entre la Puissance Suzeraine et la Principauté était d'un intérêt majeur aussi bien pour la Turquie que pour la paix Européenne, et qu'il importait de rechercher avec soin tous les moyens propres à atteindre ce but. Ils ont reconnu avec satisfaction que disposée à apporter à l'état de choses qui a subsisté jusqu'ici en Serbie des modifications propres à supprimer les motifs de dissentiment et de conflit, la Sublime Porte avait à cœur d'user de tous les moyens en son pouvoir pour convaincre les Serbes qu'elle prend l'intérêt le plus sincère au développement naturel de leur prospérité et de leur autonomie. Il est donc du devoir des Serbes de donner de leur côté à la Sublime Porte, par des témoignages irrécusables, la confiance que dans le développement légitime de cette autonomie, ils ne cherchent pas les moyens de relâcher les liens qui les unissent à l'Empire Ottoman, mais qu'ils s'efforceront toujours, au contraire, de resserrer ces liens et de fortifier la solidarité naturelle que créent la communauté des intérêts et les besoins de la défense mutuelle.

Pour réaliser ses intentions, aussi sages que généreuses, la Sublime Porte a pris, sans hésiter, vis-à-vis des Représentants des Puissances garantes, les engagements suivants, qu'elle s'empressera de faire connaître par un firman, publié dans les formes usitées, aussitôt que les Serbes auront rasé entièrement les ouvrages nouvellement élevés dans le faubourg ou entre le faubourg et les murs de la forteresse. Les Serbes devront également raser les ouvrages militaires qu'ils avaient pu indûment élever, depuis les derniers événements, dans d'autres parties de la Principauté. L'intention de la Sublime Porte est d'enlever, de son côté, les ouvrages qui ont été élevés depuis la même époque par les autorités Turques dans un but défensif qui n'aura plus de raison d'être, le Gouvernement Ottoman n'ayant pas de plus vif désir que de voir disparaître dans l'ordre moral comme dans l'ordre matériel toutes les traces de déplorables malentendus.

Article 1. Pour supprimer la possibilité de conflits résultant du mélange dans la même lieu des populations Musulmanes et Serbes, le Gouvernement Ottoman transférera en toute propriété au Gouvernement Serbe, à la charge par lui d'en indemniser les propriétaires, tous les terrains et maisons appartenant aujourd'hui à des Musulmans dans le faubourg de Belgrade. La Porte abandonnera au même titre au dit Gouvernement les murailles, fossés, ouvrages, formant l'ancienne enceinte qui sépare la ville moderne de l'ancienne ville, qu'on appelle faubourg, ainsi que les quatre portes, de la Save, de Varos, de Stamboul, et de Vidin ; ces fossés, murailles, portes, et ouvrages devront être rasés et nivelés.

Les Serbes ne pourront sur ce terrain élever aucun ouvrage militaire. Ces modifications à l'ancien état de choses auront pour conséquence que la juridiction exclusive des autorités Serbes s'étendra à l'avenir sur la totalité de la ville comme du faubourg de Belgrade. Tous les édifices religieux et les tombeaux que la population Musulmane laisserait debout en se retirant des lieux qu'elle a occupés jusqu'ici en vertu des droits séculaires, seront scrupuleusement respectés.

Art. 2. Décidée à maintenir dans toute leur intégrité ses droits sur la citadelle de Belgrade, tels que les Traités les ont consacrés, la Sublime Porte, sans vouloir en rien aggraver pour les Serbes les conditions, est fondée néanmoins à rechercher le moyen de

mettre cette place-forte sur un pied de défense suffisant, et croit nécessaire de donner à l'esplanade actuelle plus de régularité, et sur certains points où cette extension ne peut inquiéter la ville, plus d'étendue.

Cette extension sera donc prise sur le quartier occupé presque exclusivement par les Musulmans et compris entre la citadelle, le Danube, et une ligne passant par le Tékké du Cheik Hassan et par la Mosquée d'Ali Pacha. Si la Sublime Porte croyait qu'il fût absolument indispensable de pousser la démolition du quartier Musulman un peu plus loin que la ligne précitée, la Commission Militaire Mixte dont il est question dans l'Article 5 aurait à en apprécier les motifs, et à prendre une décision à cet égard. S'il se trouve dans cet espace quelques maisons non-Musulmans, le Gouvernement Ottoman en indemniserait les propriétaires. Il va sans dire qu'il se charge d'indemniser tous les expropriés qui se trouvent sous sa juridiction directe.

Quant au quartier exclusivement Serbe, le Gouvernement Ottoman, dont la pensée ne peut être de toucher aux édifices religieux tels que la Cathédrale, le Séminaire, et l'Evêché, ni aux rues marchandes, s'entendra à l'amiable avec le Gouvernement Princier pour l'achat de quelques maisons que des juges compétents déclareraient absolument nécessaires pour compléter l'esplanade dans cette direction et prendra soin de faciliter le consentement des propriétaires par l'offre de généreuses compensations.

Aucune construction, de quelque nature qu'elle soit, ne devra subsister ou être élevée à l'avenir sur le terrain de cette esplanade, qui demeurera la propriété exclusive du Gouvernement Turc. Personne ne devra y résider même temporairement.

Art. 3. Le Gouvernement Serbe prendra soin de faire restituer en nature ou en valeur tous les objets mobiliers que les Musulmans ont laissés dans leurs maisons ou boutiques lorsqu'ils se sont retirés dans la citadelle. Si lors des désordres qui ont eu lieu dans ce moment, quelque habitant Serbe avait, par le fait des Musulmans, subi des pertes du même genre, il serait indemnisé par le Gouvernement Ottoman. Les deux Gouvernements s'entendront, dans une négociation confidentielle et amicale, sur le mode de cette restitution et de l'indemnité en question.

Art. 4. La Sublime Porte, fermement résolue à maintenir tous ses droits sans jamais les dépasser, proteste qu'on ne saurait concevoir, avec la moindre espèce de fondement, l'appréhension que la citadelle de Belgrade, destinée à la défense du pays, puisse être considérée comme un moyen de porter atteinte aux immunités reconnues à la Serbie par les Sultans et garanties par les Traités. Ses sentiments paternels à l'égard de la Principauté excluent de sa part toute pensée de vouloir exercer une pression sur le Gouvernement Princier ou une intimidation sur la population. Comme témoignage de ses intentions la Sublime Porte n'a pas hésité à communiquer à la Conférence les instructions qu'elle a préparées et qui formeront désormais la règle invariable de conduite des Gouverneurs de Belgrade.

Les Représentants, en prenant acte de l'engagement qui résulte de cette communication, sont heureux de constater que ces instructions laissent aux Puissances toute certitude que la Sublime Porte n'a aucune intention de donner à l'armement des remparts du côté de la ville un caractère menaçant pour cette dernière, ni de faire usage de ses canons du même côté, si ce n'est dans le cas de la plus nécessaire et légitime défense, et que même dans ce cas, restant fidèle aux sentiments d'humanité dont elle ne peut cesser d'être animée, la Sublime Porte ne souffrira jamais que la dévastation soit intentionnellement portée au sein d'une cité riche et peuplée dont tous les intérêts sont si étroitement unis aux siens.

La Sublime Porte d'ailleurs ne doute pas que les Serbes ne veillent scrupuleusement à ce que la citadelle ne puisse être placée, par des actes d'hostilité, dans la douloureuse nécessité de repousser la force par la force. La Sublime Porte ne fait aucune difficulté d'ajouter que, résolue à examiner l'état actuel des remparts de la citadelle afin de les restaurer et de les placer dans des conditions défensives satisfaisantes, elle fera également porter cet examen sur la question de savoir si les ouvrages les plus avancés du côté méridional pourraient être modifiés avantageusement sans nuire à la sécurité de la forteresse et aux bonnes conditions de la défense que, dans aucun cas, elle ne saurait laisser amoindrir.

Art. 5. Le nouveau périmètre de l'Esplanade sera tracé par une Commission Militaire Mixte composée d'un officier désigné par chacune des Puissances Garantes et d'un officier désigné par le Gouvernement Ottoman. Cette Commission s'entourera de toutes les informations locales qui pourraient l'aider à résoudre cette question ; elle fera son rapport à la Sublime Porte, qui accueillera avec bienveillance toutes les observations que le Gouvernement Serbe croirait devoir lui soumettre à ce sujet. La Conférence verrait avec plaisir que la Sublime Porte s'éclairerait de l'avis de cette Commission pour l'examen dont il est question dans la dernière partie de l'Article précédent.

Une Commission Civile Mixte, composée de membres nommées par le Gouvernement

Ottoman et le Gouvernement Serbe, règlera toutes les questions d'expropriation et d'indemnité qui sont prévues dans le présent arrangement, sauf celles qui ne doivent être ébattues qu'entre le Gouvernement Turc et les propriétaires qui ressortissent de sa juridiction directe.

Cette Commission devra avoir terminé sa tâche dans le délai de quatre mois.

Art. 6. La Sublime Porte ne voulant entretenir dans la Principauté de Serbie que le nombre de points fortifiés qui lui paraissent réellement nécessaires à la sécurité de l'Empire Ottoman, s'est livrée à un examen attentif de cette question, et se fait un plaisir de déclarer à la Conférence que son intention est de démolir, dès à présent, parmi les forteresses qui lui appartiennent, celles de Sokol et d'Oujitza, qui ne devront jamais être relevées sans le consentement mutuel de la Sublime Porte et du Gouvernement Serbe.

Elle regarde le maintien des forteresses de Feth-Islam, de Chabatz, et de Semendria, comme indispensables au système général de défense de la Turquie.

Art. 7. Ne désirant user des droits qui lui appartiennent dans la Principauté de Serbie que dans les limites qu'exige sa propre sécurité, la Sublime Porte n'entretiendra dans les points fortifiés qu'elle y occupe, soit à Belgrade, soit à Feth-Islam, Semendria, et Chabatz, que des garnisons proportionnées à l'étendue de ces places et aux besoins réels de leur défense.

Art. 8. La Sublime Porte s'engage à prendre des mesures immédiates, d'accord avec le Gouvernement Serbe, pour que tous les habitants Musulmans qui résident autour des cinq points fortifiés qu'elle occupe en vertu des Traités, et qui sont désignés dans les Articles précédents, puissent vendre leurs propriétés et se retirer du sol Serbe le plus promptement possible.

Le Commissaire Ottoman envoyé à Belgrade, à l'effet de régler cette question, et d'autres qui étaient antérieurement pendantes, devra avoir terminé sa tâche dans le délai fixé pour la Commission Civile Mixte désignée dans l'Article 5. Il est bien entendu qu'il n'y a rien dans ce qui précède qui doive empêcher les Musulmans de voyager pour leurs affaires dans l'intérieur de la Principauté, à la charge de se conformer aux lois du pays.

Art. 9. Il est dans les intentions de la Sublime Porte de veiller à ce que le Gouverneur de la citadelle de Belgrade se renferme strictement dans l'exercice de ses fonctions militaires, et ne cherche à exercer, directement ni indirectement, aucune ingérence, si légère qu'elle soit, dans les affaires de la cité ou de la Principauté. Elle tiendra également la main à ce qu'il observe et fasse observer, vis-à-vis du Prince et de son Gouvernement, tous les égards auxquels ils ont droit.

De leur côté, le Prince et son Gouvernement agiront dans le même esprit vis-à-vis du Gouverneur de la citadelle, ne se permettront aucun empiètement sur ces attributions, et veilleront à ce que tous les fonctionnaires Ottomans soient traités en toutes circonstances conformément à leur rang.

Les mêmes procédés seront observés entre les Commandants des trois forts que la Sublime Porte conserve en dehors de la citadelle de Belgrade et les autorités Serbes voisines.

Art. 10. Tout corps particulièrement recruté d'étrangers à la Serbie devra être dissous, et le Gouvernement Serbe s'abstiendra soigneusement de motiver, par une extension abusive du droit d'asile, la méfiance de la Sublime Porte.

Art. 11. Quant aux questions qui ne sont pas prévues au présent arrangement et qui sont de nature à influer sur les bons rapports de la Turquie et de la Serbie, la Conférence ne doute pas que le Gouvernement Serbe ne s'empresse de les traiter avec la Puissance Suzeraine dans le désir de donner à celle-ci toutes les satisfactions possibles et légitimes. Il est désirable, en particulier, que le Prince Michel s'efforce d'aller au devant des appréhensions que la nouvelle organisation militaire de la Serbie a fait naître à Constantinople. La Sublime Porte a déjà déclaré qu'elle n'entretiendra dans ses forteresses que le nombre d'hommes nécessaire pour en assurer la défense; elle considère comme naturel que le Gouvernement Serbe n'entretienne pas un nombre d'hommes supérieur à ce qui est nécessaire pour le maintien de la tranquillité et de l'ordre intérieur du pays. Les limites dans lesquelles la Porte exercera son droit de garnison sont faciles à apprécier et même à déclarer. Il sera aisé au Prince de Serbie de donner des déclarations également satisfaisantes sur le nombre d'hommes dont se composerait son effectif normal, et d'arriver, par échange de communications confidentielles et amicales entre les deux parties, à un arrangement qui, faisant disparaître de part et d'autre tous les doutes et ne portant atteinte à aucune des droits de la Principauté, puisse rassurer la Sublime Porte sur le chiffre et l'emploi de l'effectif qui doivent être conformes à l'esprit des Hatti-Sheriffs.

Art. 12. Les Serbes trouveront toujours la Sublime Porte disposée à accueillir les réclamations qu'ils pourraient avoir à formuler par la suite dans un esprit bienveillant et équitable, et elle y répondra dans le plus court délai possible.

Les Puissances garantes en donnant à la Sublime Porte les conseils qui ont servi de base au présent arrangement, et en prenant acte de ses bonnes intentions, déclarent n'avoir eu en vue que de garantir le maintien des Articles XXVIII et XXIX du Traité de Paris, au moyen de sages modifications fondées sur l'intérêt de la Turquie et de la Serbie, et dictées par le désir de consolider la paix Européenne.

Elles sont convaincues qu'appréciant les efforts qui ont été faits pour donner, dans la mesure du juste et du possible, satisfaction à leurs plaintes et à leurs désirs, et ramenés à un sentiment vrai de leur situation, les Serbes comprendront que leur intérêt est de rester unis étroitement à la Puissance Suzeraine, de s'appuyer sur elle, et de contribuer à la défense générale de l'Empire, avec la fidélité dont ils ont donné tant de preuves, et qui seule peut assurer l'autonomie et l'existence de la Serbie.

Constantinople, ce 4 Septembre, 1862.

(Signé)

HENRY L. BULWER.
M. DE MOUSTIER.
DE PROKESCH-OSTEN.
LOBANOW.
WERTHERN.
BELLA-CARRACCILO.

(Translation.)

THE events of which the Principality of Servia has recently been the theatre, having induced the Sublime Porte to assemble in Conference the Representatives of the Powers who signed the Treaty of Paris, and those Powers being, above all things, desirous to avoid new sources of irritation, have considered it their duty to abstain from a minute investigation of the immediate causes of those lamentable occurrences. They have therefore confined themselves to showing that the re-establishment of confidential and friendly relations between the suzerain Power and the Principality was of great importance, as well for Turkey as for the peace of Europe, and that it was a matter of consequence to seek with care all the means adapted to attain that end. They have seen with satisfaction that the Sublime Porte being disposed to introduce into the state of things which has subsisted in Servia up to the present time the modifications suitable to remove causes of disagreement and of conflict, was desirous of using all means in her power to convince the Servians that she takes the most sincere interest in the natural development of their prosperity and their self-government. It is, therefore, the duty of the Servians on their part to give to the Sublime Porte, by unmistakable proofs, the assurance that in the legitimate development of this self-government they do not seek the means of relaxing the ties which unite them to the Ottoman Empire; but that, on the contrary, they will always strive to render those ties more close, and to strengthen the natural union which is created by community of interest, and the necessities of mutual defence.

In order to realize those intentions, as wise as they are generous, the Sublime Porte has not hesitated to enter into the following engagements with the Representatives of the guaranteeing Powers, which she will hasten to make known by a firman, published in the usual form, as soon as the Servians shall have entirely razed the works lately constructed in the suburb, or between the suburb and the walls of the fortress. The Servians shall likewise raze the military works which they may have unduly constructed since the late events in other parts of the Principality. It is the intention of the Sublime Porte, on its part, to remove the works which have been constructed during the same period by Turkish authorities for defensive purposes, which will no longer exist; the Ottoman Government having the most lively desire to obliterate, in the moral as well as in the material order of things, all traces of deplorable misunderstandings.

Article 1. In order to prevent the possibility of conflicts arising from the intermixture in the same locality of Mussulman and Servian population, the Ottoman Government will transfer in full property to the Servian Government, on condition of indemnifying the proprietors, all the lands and houses in the suburb of Belgrade belonging at the present time to Mussulmans. The Porte will abandon, on the same condition, to the said Government the walls, ditches, and works forming the ancient inclosure which separates the modern from the ancient town, which is called the faubourg, as well as the four gates of the Save, of Varos, of Stamboul, and of Widdin. These ditches, walls, gates, and works shall be demolished and levelled. The Servians shall not erect any military work on this ground. These modifications in the former state of things will have for result that the exclusive jurisdiction of the Servian authorities shall in future extend over the whole of the town, as well as over the faubourg of Belgrade. All the religious edifices and tombs which the Mussulman population may leave standing when they retire from the places they have hitherto occupied in virtue of ancient rights, shall be scrupulously respected.

Art. 2. The Sublime Porte being determined to maintain in all their integrity its rights over the citadel of Belgrade, as sanctioned by Treaties, but not wishing in any respect to make the conditions thereof more burthensome for the Servians, she is, nevertheless, resolved to seek the means for putting that fortress into a proper state of defence, and deems it necessary to give to the present esplanade more regularity, and, at certain points where such extension cannot disturb the town, an increase of extent.

This extension will therefore be made in the quarter almost exclusively occupied by the Mussulmans, and situated between the citadel, the Danube, and a line passing by the Tekké of Sheikh Hassan and by the mosque of Ali Pasha. If the Sublime Porte should think it absolutely necessary to carry the demolition of the Mussulman quarter a little further than the aforesaid line, the Mixed Military Commission, which forms the subject of Article 5, will have to take the question into consideration, and decide upon it. If there should be any non-Mussulman houses in this space, the Ottoman Government will indemnify the proprietors, and will, of course, undertake to indemnify all those expropriated persons who are under their direct jurisdiction.

With regard to the exclusively Servian quarter, the Ottoman Government, which would not think of touching the religious edifices, such as the Cathedral, the University, and the Bishop's Palace, nor the Mercantile quarter, will negotiate in a friendly manner with the Prince's Government for the purchase of certain houses which competent judges may declare absolutely necessary to complete the esplanade in that direction, and will take care to facilitate the consent of the proprietors by the offer of liberal compensation.

No building of any kind whatever shall remain, or be built in future, upon the ground of this esplanade, which shall remain the exclusive property of the Turkish Government. Nobody shall reside there, even temporarily.

Art. 3. The Servian Government shall take care to restore, in kind or in value, all moveables left by the Mussulmans in their houses or shops when they retired to the citadel. If, at the time of the disturbances which then occurred, any Servian suffered any losses of the same nature by the acts of the Mussulmans, he will be indemnified by the Ottoman Government.

The two Governments will come to a confidential and friendly understanding as to the mode of such restitution and of the indemnity in question.

Art. 4. The Sublime Porte, firmly resolved to maintain all its rights without ever exceeding them, protests that there is not the least foundation for the apprehension that the citadel of Belgrade, destined for the defence of the country, can be considered as the means for infringing the immunities granted to Servia by the Sultans, and guaranteed by Treaties. Its paternal feeling towards the Principality excludes any desire to exercise any pressure on the Prince's Government, or any intimidation towards the population. As a proof of its intentions, the Sublime Porte has not hesitated to communicate to the Conference the instructions which it has prepared, and which will hereafter form the invariable rule for the conduct of the Governors of Belgrade.

The Representatives, in placing upon record the engagement resulting from this communication, are happy to state that those instructions prove to the Powers that the Sublime Porte has no intention of giving a threatening character to the armaments of the ramparts on the side towards the town, nor to make use of the guns on that side, except in a case of the most necessary and legitimate defence; and even in such a case, faithful to the feelings of humanity with which it is ever animated, the Sublime Porte will never permit that devastation should be intentionally carried into the heart of a rich and populous town, whose interests are so closely united with its own.

The Sublime Porte, moreover, does not doubt that the Servians will scrupulously guard against the citadel being placed, by acts of hostility, under the painful necessity of repelling force by force. The Sublime Porte has no difficulty in adding that, while resolved to examine the actual state of the ramparts of the citadel, in order that they may be restored and placed on a satisfactory footing of defence, it will equally cause an examination to be made into the question whether the more advanced works on the southern side could be advantageously modified without endangering the security of the fortress and its efficient state of defence, which, in any case, it cannot allow to be diminished.

Art. 5. The new circuit of the esplanade shall be marked out by a Mixed Military Commission, composed of an officer named by each of the guaranteeing Powers, and of an officer named by the Ottoman Government. This Commission will avail itself of all local information which may assist it in resolving this question; it shall make its report to the Sublime Porte, which will receive favourably any observations which the Servian Government may think right to submit to it on this subject. The Conference would feel pleasure

if the Sublime Porte were to take advantage of the opinion of this Commission in the examination which forms the subject of the last part of the preceding Article.

A Civil Mixed Commission, composed of members named by the Ottoman Government and the Servian Government, shall decide all the questions of expropriation, and of indemnity which are contemplated in the present arrangement, except those only which can be discussed between the Turkish Government and the proprietors who are under its direct jurisdiction. This Commission shall conclude its labours within the space of four months.

Art. 6. The Sublime Porte wishing to maintain in the Principality of Servia only the number of fortified points which seem to her really necessary for the security of the Ottoman Empire, has devoted itself to an attentive examination of this question, and has pleasure in declaring to the Conference that her intention is to demolish from this time, from among the fortresses which belong to her, those of Sokol and Oujitza, which shall never be restored without the mutual consent of the Sublime Porte and the Servian Government. The Porte looks upon the maintenance of the fortresses of Feth-Islam, of Chabatz, and of Semendria, as indispensable to the general system of defence of Turkey.

Art. 7. Not wishing to exercise the rights which belong to her in the Principality of Servia beyond the limits which her own security demands, the Sublime Porte will maintain in the fortified points which she occupies there, whether at Belgrade or Feth-Islam, Semendria, and Chabatz, only garrisons proportionate to the extent of these places, and to the real requirements of their defence.

Art. 8. The Sublime Porte engages to take immediate measures, in concert with the Servian Government, so that all the Mussulman inhabitants who live around the five fortified points which she occupies in virtue of the Treaties, and which are specified in the preceding Articles, may dispose of their properties and withdraw from the Servian territory as quickly as possible.

The Ottoman Commissioner sent to Belgrade in order to decide this question and others which were previously pending, shall terminate his labours within the period fixed by the Civil Mixed Commission described in Article 5. It is well understood that there is nothing in what precedes to prevent Mussulmans from travelling upon business in the interior of the Principality, on condition of conforming to the laws of the country.

Art. 9. It is in the intention of the Sublime Porte to see that the Governor of the citadel of Belgrade confines himself strictly to the exercise of his military functions, and does not seek to exercise, directly or indirectly, any interference, however small, in the affairs of the city or of the Principality. She will likewise see that he observes and causes to be observed towards the Prince and his Government, all the respect to which they have right.

On their part, the Prince and his Government will act in the same spirit towards the Governor of the citadel; they will not commit any encroachment upon his functions, and will see that all the Ottoman functionaries are treated in all cases conformably to their rank.

The same regard shall be observed between the Commandants of the three forts which the Sublime Porte maintains outside the citadel of Belgrade and the neighbouring Servian authorities.

Art. 10. Every corps recruited entirely from foreigners in Servia shall be disbanded, and the Servian Government shall carefully abstain from exciting distrust of the Sublime Porte by any abusive extension of the right of asylum.

Art. 11. As for questions which are not provided for in the present arrangement, and which are of a nature to influence the good understanding of Turkey and of Servia, the Conference does not doubt that the Servian Government will be anxious to treat concerning them with the Sovereign Power in the desire to grant her every possible and legitimate satisfaction. It is desirable, in particular, that Prince Michael should endeavour to put an end to the apprehensions which the new military organization of Servia has created at Constantinople. The Sublime Porte has already declared that she will maintain in her fortresses only the number of men necessary to insure their defence; she naturally expects that the Servian Government will not maintain a larger number of men than is necessary for the maintenance of the tranquillity and the internal order of the country. The limits within which the Porte will exercise its right of garrison are easy to be understood, and even to be declared. It will be easy for the Prince of Servia to give declarations equally satisfactory as to the number of men which will compose his usual effective force, and by an exchange of confidential and friendly communications between the two parties to come to an arrangement, which, while it removes on both sides all doubts, and does not injure any rights of the Principality, will tranquillize the Sublime Porte as to the number and employment of the effective force, which should be in conformity with the spirit of the Hatti-Cherifs.

Art. 12. The Servians will always find the Sublime Porte ready to listen, in a just and friendly spirit, to any demands which they may have to make in future, and the Porte will cause an answer to be returned with the shortest possible delay.

The Guaranteeing Powers, in giving to the Sublime Porte counsels which have served as a basis for the present arrangement, and in placing upon record its good intentions, declare that they have only had in view to ensure the maintenance of Articles XXVIII and XXIX of the Treaty of Paris, by means of wise modifications, founded upon the interests of Turkey and Servia, and dictated by the desire to strengthen the peace of Europe. They are convinced that the Servians, while appreciating the efforts which have been made to satisfy in every just and possible manner their complaints and wishes, and brought to a true sense of their situation, will perceive that it is their interest to remain in close connection with the Suzerain Power, to rely upon its support, and to contribute towards the general defence of the Empire with that fidelity of which they have given so many proofs, and which alone can insure the self-government and existence of Servia.

Constantinople, September 4, 1862.

(Signed)

HENRY L. BULWER.
M. DE MOUSTIER.
DE PROKESCH-OSTEN.
A. LOBANOW.
WERTHERN.
BELLA-CARACCILO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 42.

Instruction addressed to the Governor of Belgrade.

LA Sublime Porte a été toujours animée de la plus haute bienveillance à l'égard de la population Serbe. Comme conséquence naturelle de cette bienveillance, notre auguste Souverain désire sincèrement le développement progressif de sa prospérité, et, mue par ce principe invariable, Sa Majesté Impériale ne saurait tolérer qu'on puisse y porter atteinte. C'est donc pour vous en faire bien pénétrer, et afin de prévenir tout conflit d'autorité j'ai l'ordre Souverain de vous indiquer les points suivants qui doivent vous servir de règle de conduite dans l'exercice de vos fonctions :—

1. Vous savez que l'administration intérieure de la Principauté de Servie est exclusivement confiée au Prince et à ses fonctionnaires. Vous n'aurez par conséquent à vous immiscer d'aucune façon dans les affaires qui concernent cette administration.

2. Vous ferez tout votre possible pour vivre en bonne harmonie avec l'Administration Serbe et vous aurez à rendre personnellement et à faire rendre par vos subordonnés, tant au Prince qu'à tous ses fonctionnaires, tous les égards auxquels ils ont droit. De même, et naturellement, les Serbes ne s'immisceront en aucune manière de ce qui regarde la forteresse, et ils vous témoigneront et feront témoigner le respect dû à un haut fonctionnaire de la Sublime Porte, ainsi qu'aux officiers de la garnison.

3. Vous ne permettrez à aucun des habitants Musulmans de Belgrade d'habiter en dehors de la citadelle.

4. Vous ne donnerez aucun air de menace et qui peut sans nécessité inquiéter ou alarmer la population Serbe, à la disposition de votre artillerie sur les remparts tournés vers la ville.

5. Vous ne ferez usage de l'artillerie que dans le cas d'attaque sérieuse tentée contre la forteresse que vous êtes chargé de défendre.

Dans le cas de défense nécessaire et dans ce cas seulement, vous vous servirez de votre artillerie ayant soin de ne diriger le feu que sur les parties de la ville d'où provient l'attaque, et vous inspirant toujours des intentions généreuses de Sa Majesté Impériale, d'épargner autant que possible une ville à la conservation et à la prospérité de laquelle elle attache le plus grand prix.

6. Vous devez comprendre que l'Article précédent n'a pour objet que de fixer la ligne de conduite que vous devez suivre dans des éventualités que vous devez avant tout faire votre possible pour éviter. Si, après avoir épuisé tous les moyens de conciliation, vous vous trouvez dans la fâcheuse nécessité de faire usage de vos canons pour repousser une attaque contre la forteresse, vous tâcherez d'en prévenir d'avance les Consuls étrangers résidents à Belgrade, et, s'il est possible, les habitants paisibles de la ville.

(Translation.)

THE Sublime Porte has been always animated with the greatest good will towards the Servian people. As the natural consequence of this good will, our august Sovereign desires sincerely the progressive development of their prosperity; and moved by this invariable principle, His Imperial Majesty cannot tolerate anything which might injure it. In order, therefore, that you may thoroughly understand this, and with a view to avoid all conflict between authorities, I have the Royal order to indicate to you the following points, which will serve you for the regulation of your conduct in the exercise of your duties:—

1. You are aware that the internal administration of the Principality of Servia is confided exclusively to the Prince and his functionaries. You will not, therefore, mix yourself up in any manner in matters which concern that administration.

2. You will do everything in your power to live in good harmony with the Servian administration, and you will yourself pay, and cause all your subordinates to pay, to the Prince and to his functionaries all the respect which is due to them. In the same manner the Servians will of course not interfere in any manner with what concerns the fortress, and they will show, and will cause to be shown to you, the respect due to a high functionary of the Sublime Porte, as well to the officers of the garrison.

3. You will not permit any of the Mussulman inhabitants of Belgrade to live outside the citadel.

4. You will not give any air of menace, which might without necessity disquiet or alarm the Servian population, to the disposition of your artillery on the ramparts directed towards the town.

5. You will not use artillery except in case of a serious attack made against the fortress which you are charged to defend.

In case of necessary defence, and in that case only, will you make use of your artillery, taking care to direct the fire only on those parts of the town from whence the attack proceeds; and you will always be animated by the generous intentions of His Imperial Majesty to spare as far as possible a town to the preservation and prosperity of which he attaches the greatest importance.

6. You must understand that the only object of the preceding Article is to regulate the line of conduct which you should pursue in eventualities which you must do all in your power to avoid. If, after having exhausted all means of conciliation, you find yourself under the unhappy necessity of making use of your cannon to repel an attack on the fortress, you will endeavour to inform beforehand the foreign Consuls resident in Belgrade, and, if possible, the peaceable inhabitants of the town.

No. 43.

Sir H. Bulwer to Earl Russell.—(Received September 26.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, September 13, 1862

SINCE writing my despatch of the 11th instant, the Sultan has accepted the arrangement concluded on the 4th instant, between the Porte and the Representatives of the Guaranteeing Powers, on the subject of Servia, and Aali Pasha has signed it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

No. 44.

Sir H. Bulwer to Earl Russell.—(Received September 26.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, September 17, 1862.

AALI PASHA sends immediately to the Prince of Servia a Vizirial letter, drawn up in friendly terms, and inclosing the copy of the Protocols.

He informs the Prince in this letter that a firman will be promulgated immediately, according to the tenour of the said Protocol, when the barricades are removed.

I urge him to send without delay the firman to the Governor of the citadel, with orders to promulgate it the instant that these preliminary measures are taken.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

P.S.—Since writing the above despatch, I have received from Aali Pasha an official note (copy of which is herewith inclosed), transmitting to me legalized copies of the Protocol and of the instructions addressed to the Governor of the fortress, which were forwarded to your Lordship in my despatch of the 11th instant.

H. L. B.

Inclosure in No. 44.

Aali Pasha to Sir H. Bulwer.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Constantinople, le 16 Septembre, 1862.

J'AI l'honneur d'informer votre Excellence qu'en vertu des ordres que nous venons de recevoir de la part de Sa Majesté le Sultan, mon auguste Souverain, son Altesse le Grand Vizir et moi nous avons apposé notre signature au Protocole contenant l'arrangement définitivement arrêté entre nous le 4 Septembre courant.

Comme l'original de ce document doit être conservé dans les archives de l'Empire, je m'empresse d'en adresser à votre Excellence une copie légalisée, accompagnée d'un exemplaire des instructions destinées à servir de règle de conduite à son Excellence le Gouverneur-Général de la forteresse de Belgrade dans l'exercice de ses fonctions.

La Sublime Porte fera connaître immédiatement et dans les formes usitées à son Altesse le Prince de Servie toutes les dispositions qui se trouvent consignées dans les pièces susmentionnées.

Veillez, &c.
(Signed) AALI.

(Translation.)

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Constantinople, September 16, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that by virtue of the orders which we have just received from His Majesty the Sultan my august Sovereign, his Highness the Grand Vizier and I have affixed our signatures to the Protocol containing the arrangement definitively settled between us on the 4th instant.

As the original of this document is to be preserved in the archives of the Empire, I hasten to transmit to your Excellency a legalized copy, together with a copy of the instructions destined to serve as the rule of conduct of his Excellency the Governor-General of the fortress of Belgrade in the exercise of his functions.

The Sublime Porte will forthwith and in the usual forms make his Highness the Prince of Servia acquainted with all the provisions which are included in the above-mentioned documents.

Accept, &c.
(Signed) AALI.

No. 45.

Earl Russell to Sir H. Bulwer.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 30, 1862.

HER Majesty's Government have read, with great satisfaction, your despatch of the 11th instant, containing a summary of the Conference held at Constantinople on the Servian question, and I have to acquaint your Excellency that I approve the course pursued by you as therein reported.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

FURTHER PAPER

RESPECTING THE

BOMBARDMENT OF BELGRADE,

IN

JUNE 1862.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

Further Paper respecting the Bombardment of Belgrade, in June 1862.

Consul-General Longworth to Earl Russell.—(Received May 21.)

(Extract.)

Belgrade, May 16, 1862.

I HAVE now, in obedience to your Lordship's order, the honour to transmit herewith inclosed to your Lordship, a copy of the protest against the bombardment of Belgrade, in the form which my colleagues decided was, under the circumstances, the best to be adopted. It was transmitted under a cover to the address of his Excellency Achir Pasha, Governor of Belgrade.

Inclosure.

Protest.

Belgrade, le 17 Juin, 1862.

LE Pasha, Gouverneur de Belgrade, ayant donné l'ordre de bombarder la ville sans avertissement préalable et après avoir convoqué le corps Consulaire, mais sans l'avoir même attendu, et lorsque tout le monde avait le droit de se reposer sur la Convention passée avec le Gouvernement Serbe en la présence et avec la signature de tous les membres du Corps Consulaire, les Soussignés laissent sur lui la responsabilité d'un acte aussi contraire aux principes du droit des gens ; et après avoir protesté de la manière la plus formelle, les Soussignés déclarent qu'ils ne peuvent désormais qu'attendre dans la ville bombardée le sort qui peut atteindre leur nationaux, jusqu'au moment où les ordres de leurs Gouvernements leur parviendront.

(Signé)

J. A. LONGWORTH, *Consul-Général d'Angleterre.*

E. TASTU, *Consul-Général de France.*

A. VLANGALY, *Consul-Général de Russie.*

MERONI, *Consul de Prusse.*

(Translation.)

Belgrade, June 17, 1862.

THE Pasha, Governor of Belgrade, having given the order to bombard the city without previous warning, and after having convoked the Consular body, but without waiting for them, and at a time when every one had a right to rely on the Convention entered into with the Servian Government in the presence of and signed by all the members of the Consular body, the Undersigned leave on him the responsibility of an act so contrary to the principles of international law ; and after having protested in the most formal manner, the Undersigned declare that, until the orders of their Governments reach them, they can only await in the bombarded city the fate which may befall their fellow-countrymen.

(Signed)

J. A. LONGWORTH, *Consul-General of England.*

E. TASTU, *Consul-General of France.*

A. VLANGALY, *Consul-General of Russia.*

MERONI, *Consul of Prussia.*

Further Paper respecting the Bombard-
ment of Belgrade, in June 1862.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by
Command of Her Majesty. 1863.*

LONDON :

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS,

BRAZIL.

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

PLUNDER OF THE WRECK

OF THE

BRITISH BARQUE "PRINCE OF WALES;"

AND THE

ILL-TREATMENT OF OFFICERS

OF

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP "FORTE."

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

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Correspondence respecting the Plunder of the Wreck of the
British Barque "Prince of Wales," on the Coast of
Brazil, in June 1861; and respecting the Ill-treatment of
three Officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte" by the
Brazilian Police, in June 1862.

No. 1.

Consul Vereker to Lord J. Russell.—(Received September 2.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, June 25, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, under flying seal for the Board of Trade, a despatch dated this day reporting the total wreck, upon the coast of this province, of the barque "Prince of Wales," of Glasgow, and venture to call your Lordship's special attention to the various circumstances in connection with that wreck, as related in my report.

Your Lordship will perceive from this report that there is every probability that all the persons who had been on board perished. The measures which I adopted, proceeding to the coast (seventy miles) and saving all possible, are also reported, as well as my application that the bodies of the persons wrecked from that barque should be brought to the cemetery of this city, and, after an inquest had been held thereon, should be decently buried.

I have placed myself in direct communication with his Excellency the President of this Province, with reference to the savage and wicked proceedings of the natives in connection with the wreck, as the case was one of urgency, and the referring it in the first instance to Her Majesty's Mission at Rio de Janeiro would have caused unnecessary delay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

Consul Vereker to the Secretary to the Board of Trade.

Sir,

Rio Grande do Sul, June 25, 1861.

IT is my painful duty to report the total loss, on the coast of Albardao, at about seventy miles to the southward of this city, of the British barque "Prince of Wales," of Glasgow, official No. 26,598, master unknown, and bound from Glasgow to Buenos Ayres, with a general cargo. I regret to state that it is but too probable that all on board of that vessel have perished.

In order that this sad case may be fully understood, as well as my reasons for supposing the vessel lost to be the one stated, and the motives of my proceedings, which I hope may meet with the approval of Her Majesty's Government, I shall proceed to report the circumstances as they came to my knowledge:—

On the evening of the 12th instant Senhor Bento Venancio Soares, the Justice of the Peace of the district of Albardao, arrived in this city, and mentioned, in conversation, that some bodies had come ashore on the coast opposite his house (four miles distant). Questioned as to whether he had any knowledge of a wreck having taken place, he denied all knowledge of such a casualty. This report reached me on the 13th, and in view of the large number of British vessels navigating on this coast, I instituted inquiries, but could obtain no further information, Senhor Bento having left for the country (Pelotas). Anticipating, I may say that on the 9th it was known in his neighbourhood that the wreck had taken place.

On the 14th I was informed, casually, by a gentleman who had spoken with the Delegate of Police on business, that the latter had just received from the Sub-Delegate of Tahim notice of a wreck at Albardao, and my informant added that, from a paper he

had seen, he suspected the vessel must be British. I immediately proceeded to the Delegate of Police, but the papers were in the hands of his Secretary, to whom I went and found that the despatch was very vague, not even hinting the nationality of the vessel; and the only paper inclosed was that which I herewith send, being the receipt of the Shipping Master of Glasgow for shipping the crew of the "Prince of Wales." Feeling convinced from this paper, and the manifest desire of concealing the fact, that the vessel wrecked was British property, my efforts in such cases being well known, I took possession of that paper somewhat against the will of the Delegate's secretary, and brought it to the Municipal and Commercial Judge (who under Brazilian law is the authority appointed to act in such cases). I pointed out to him my belief that the vessel wrecked was English, and my determination to proceed immediately to the spot, and requested him to accompany me; with the utmost frankness, and without hesitation, he consented to do so as soon as horses could be arranged. I had obtained a force of soldiers, and also invited the Inspector of the Custom-house to send down some officers; this he did, ordering to accompany me the assistant chief guard and two armed officers. As soon, therefore, as possible, we proceeded, journeying about thirty-eight miles that evening, and the next day about forty miles, when we arrived at night at the house of Senhor Bento Venancio Soares already mentioned, the nearest to the wreck, being most grudgingly admitted to shelter, and not receiving food either for ourselves or horses; a few biscuits which I had happily carried in my saddle-bags being the principal support of the party.

I desired to proceed at once to sleep on the coast, but some of the party were so exhausted that this could not be done.

At the first light on the 16th, we proceeded to the wreck, and the scene which then presented itself was melancholy in the extreme, the whole coast appeared spread with empty crates, barrels, and boxes, and with remnants of the vessel; most of these were crowded within a short distance west-north-west from where the hull was discovered. At this point were the long boat and gig, the oars, seamen's chests, supply of provisions, and various parts of the rigging, with part of the figure-head (a male figure with hand outstretched), and some pieces of the hull, chiefly the after part, including furniture of cabin and berths (red velvet), a portion of the stern with the name "Prin." I also happily rescued from the waves a bundle of dockets or orders to receive cargo; they were torn and imperfect, and massed with sand. I was enabled, however, after returning home, to make out from them the list inclosed. I also found a written paper with a note of wages due to crew of last voyage, at Monte Video; this paper was afterwards carried away by the wind. The only other papers found were part of a log-book, not written upon, and various portions of Bibles and Prayer Books.

Satisfied of the identity of the vessel, I claimed the property as British, and inclose a list of articles saved, which, as well as various spars, &c., on the coast, I ordered to be brought to this city. I have added a note of the marks of various cases found on the shore, and a description of four bodies found near thereto.

Upon my return to this city, I addressed to the Delegate of Police the despatch of which a copy is inclosed to his Excellency the President of the Province. In this despatch you will find details showing the atrocious proceedings of the residents on the coast of Albardao.

Ten bodies are reported to have been found, including those of two females; they were stated to me to have been all buried (five being in one place).

Nothing has, however, been found to lead to the knowledge of the names of any, except a brass plate on the broken cover of a trunk, which, as mentioned in the list, bears the name of "John McKinnon, Whitley Bay, Arran." I presume this would be the same person as John McKinnon, the number of whose certificate of competency or service is 5,395, who was master of the "Prince of Wales" some time since, as appears by Lloyd's List.

I should mention that when we proceeded to the shore, we were met by the Inspector of the District, Senhor Faustino, and an armed force collected in the neighbourhood, which outnumbered that which accompanied the Municipal Judge and myself.

It was the duty of the Inspector to protect the property and save all possible, in the absence of those who should take charge. How he performed that duty may be judged of by the circumstance that although many of the crates and some of the barrels had been manifestly broken by the force of the waves, many more were violently broken open and rifled of their contents; many barrels which had contained beer were in this category; and every case and box had been burst open and robbed of all its contents. A number had contained manufactured goods in tins, in most cases the tins

had been cut open, and the contents taken away; but in others the tins had been bodily carried off. I would call special attention to the seamen's trunks, all of which had been violently burst open, and not a single article left inside, and yet they appeared quite dry within, the paper linings of some not having been even soiled, leading to the suspicion that they had come safely in the boats.

As an illustration I may mention that I claimed at Senhor Bento's house a beautiful edition of the Bible, with Eadie's Commentaries, and a smaller Bible, both perfect, and showing no stains or signs of having been damp; these, as it was confessed to me, had been taken out of the trunks.

Viewing the whole circumstances, I was most involuntarily led to the conclusion that those persons who so shamelessly had robbed the property on the shore, and who with depraved cunning had withheld all papers which might have led to the discovery of the real facts, would not have hesitated to commit personal violence in order to attain their objects.

I therefore requested to be shown where the bodies were buried, but this proposition was received with evident unwillingness, and consultation between the Inspector and his party. I then requested the Municipal Judge to proceed to an inquest on the bodies, but he declined to do so. I cannot blame him for this, as he was supported by but a small force, which in the probable event of resistance would have been easily overpowered. I therefore considered it best to proceed at once to this city, in order that an investigation might be instituted; as to proceed to Tahim, where the nearest political authority resides, would have been nearly as distant, and I had no reason to expect assistance from the Sub-Delegate of that place, Senhor Delfino Francisco Gonçalves, who had shown culpable negligence in the case.

Before leaving I requested the Municipal Judge to cause search to be made in the neighbourhood with a view to discover the goods, clothes, &c., plundered; this he consented to do, and proceeded to examine one district, whilst I, with a guard of soldiers, accompanied the inspector in the adjoining district. Nothing was found in the houses, but it appeared to me from the conduct of those we visited, that the goods were probably concealed in the thickets, &c., near their houses, and that not only were they prepared for such a visit, but that they all acted in combination.

Having taken an inventory of the goods saved, and arranged for the conveyance to this city of all worth the carriage, I returned here.

I suppose the wreck will have taken place on the 7th or 8th instant, probably in the same gale in which the "Hound," of Greenock, and other vessels were lost, and the close combination among those on the coast of Albardao is sufficiently exemplified by the delays in forwarding information, by which they had ample opportunity to hide their plunder; nevertheless some of the cases on the shore had been but recently broken.

On arrival here I immediately requested that the ten bodies which had been found should be conducted to this city, in order that they might receive decent burial, and that an inquest should be held thereon. Yesterday four out of the ten bodies arrived, the others being withheld. I was present at the inquest, but have not yet received the report of those four bodies; three had been found unburied in the open plain. These bodies were found away from the shore, and far from the remnants of the wreck.

It will be my duty further to report my proceedings upon this painful matter.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Consul Vereker to Senhor de Bitancourt, June 20, 1861.

[See Inclosure 3 in No. 2.]

No. 2.

Consul Vereker to Lord J. Russell.—(Received September 2.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, July 5, 1861.

IN my despatch of the 25th ultimo I had the honour to inclose a Report to the Board of Trade, respecting various circumstances connected with the wreck, at about seventy miles to the southwards of this city, of the British barque "Prince of Wales," of Glasgow. On the same occasion, I respectfully called your Lordship's attention to that Report. Therein the violent plunder of the cargo of the barque was referred to; the alleged deaths by drowning of all the persons on board; the circum-

stances under which the bodies were stated to have been found, far from the locality where the boats and principal portions of the wreck and cargo were remaining; the repugnance manifested against holding an inquest, as I requested, or even showing me the places where the bodies were buried; the circumstance that the authorities of the coast did not hold an inquest, as it was their duty to do; and various other occurrences, leading to the suspicion that violence may have been used towards some, at least, of those who had been on board the vessel, and even that those washed on shore may not have been buried, as was asserted,—were mentioned in the same Report.

Under those circumstances, and as I could not, in view of the facts, rely on the efficiency or impartiality of the authorities of the coast district, I returned to this city, where I arrived on the night of the 18th ultimo. I immediately communicated verbally with the Delegate of Police, and afterwards addressed to him my despatch of that date (of which a copy is inclosed) requesting that the bodies of those who had belonged to the barque might be brought to the cemetery of this city, to be there, after an inquest had been held, decently buried.

The Delegate of Police promptly complied with my request, and on the following day sent down a force to bring up the bodies of those unfortunate persons ; making it, however, a condition, that I should guarantee the expenses, as he stated he had no authority to incur them. I felt bound to agree to this proposal, in order to omit no effort to discover the truth and punish the criminals ; considering, also, that the decent burial of those unfortunate people was a matter which, in due regard to British character and dignity, I should provide for : but I stated that, inasmuch as the expenses were principally caused by the negligence of the Brazilian authorities on the coast, in not holding an inquest, or causing the bodies to be regularly buried, I considered that the expense, as far as it resulted from that circumstance, was one which should properly fall on the Brazilian Government.

I have now the honour to request your Lordship's authority for the expenses I have incurred in this matter.

In order that the whole circumstances may be before your Lordship, I inclose an extract from my despatch to the Delegate of Police, a copy of which accompanied my despatch of the 25th ultimo to, your Lordship; I also inclose a translation of the despatch of the Delegate of Police in reply, and of his instructions to the Sub-Delegate of Tahim, sent therewith.

I should observe, that instead of the bodies of the ten persons who had been wrecked from the "Prince of Wales," and were stated to have been buried, only four were delivered up, and of these, three had been found away from the coast, unburied, and completely stripped of their clothes. The retention of six bodies (five of which, including those of two females, and of one called the captain, had been buried in the one place) serves only to augment the very grave suspicions which rest on the inhabitants of the coast, and to justify my measures for a searching investigation into the facts. The ridiculous allegation on which the non-compliance with the orders of the Delegate of Police is based, viz., the place of burial not being discovered, in consequence of the changes in the territorial appearance of the locality, is wholly untenable.

On the 25th ultimo the four bodies which had been delivered up were buried in the cemetery for Protestants of this city; the funeral was attended by a large number of the British residents, and the ceremony made as imposing as could be done consistently with economy. I have paid the expenses.

In conclusion, I have to observe that the course I adopted seems to have met the sanction of all Christians in this place, causing a sensation in the locality of the wreck, but, I believe, producing a wholesome effect, and, in the event of similar disasters recurring, the residents will at least understand that crimes will not be allowed to pass unperceived, and may be induced to pay greater respect to those who suffer the misfortune of being driven upon these shores.

Although the wilful delays of conveying information have caused considerable difficulties in this case, I shall not relax my efforts to discover the truth.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

Consul Vereker to Senhor de Bitancourt.

Sir, *Rio Grande do Sul, June 18, 1861, at night.*
HAvING ascertained by a visit to the coast of Albardao, to the place where the British barque "Prince of Wales" was wrecked, whence I returned this day, that the

bodies of ten persons (eight men, one woman, and one girl), who had been conveyed in that barque, have been found on the shore and there put into the sands, I have to request that you will order that the said bodies may be conveyed to a cemetery of this city, to be there decently buried, and that an official inquest should take place on the said bodies as soon as they should be conveyed here, in order to ascertain whether those persons died by natural causes, accident, or violence. The urgent necessity of having an immediate inquest held, I have already had the honour verbally to point out to you.

I would also request you to inform me when the bodies of those British subjects arrive, and of the time of the inquest, in order that I may be present. You will, no doubt, direct that clothes or any other articles found adjoining or near to the deceased, may be conveyed at the same time, with a note as to how they were found.

Feeling full confidence that you will act in this matter with zeal and discretion, I avail myself, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 2.

Senhor de Bitancourt to Senhor Gonçalves.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Delegacy of Police of the District, June 19, 1861.

THE English Consul having required by a despatch of this day, that the bodies of those who formed the crew of the barque "Prince of Wales," and are buried on the shore, should be disinterred, you will with all urgency proceed to this duty, ordering (here) the bodies with the same clothes with which they were buried, contracting for this purpose means of conveyance, which will be here paid by the respective Consul. I avail myself of the occasion to recommend you to employ all energy in order that an account may be taken of the goods of said barque, which with so much scandal were robbed by some residents of that district, pointing out at the same time who were the authors of so heinous a crime; and they being known, you will cause them to be arrested, that they may be processed and punished, in order that these degenerate Brazilians may not stain the good name of the country in the eyes of the stranger.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

ANTONIO ESTEVAO DE BITANCOURT E SILVA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 2.

Consul Vereker to Senhor de Bitancourt.

(Extract.)

Rio Grande do Sul, June 20, 1861.

I SHALL now refer to the deaths of the crew and passengers whose bodies have been found, viz., eight men, a lady, and a girl; and without drawing any conclusion on the subject, it becomes my painful duty to place the facts before you, as I myself saw them, and to request that the most energetic steps, without distinction of persons, may be taken to discover the truth. I have stated that the long-boat and the greater part of the cargo and appurtenances of the barque were found in nearly the same spot, also the seamen's and captain's chests. The long-boat was broken at the prow, apparently from striking on the sands; the gig in a perfect state, and the oars of both, were also found there. In the same spot were found many light objects, such as large pieces of cork, feather pillow-cases, &c.; and the trunks, which had been broken open, appeared in some instances quite dry inside, showing no signs of damage by sea-water. Now, in view of the position of the hull, which seems to be anchored outside, it is almost certain that some of the crew were not only in the long-boat but in the gig, and, supposing they were drowned it is reasonable to presume that the bodies would have been washed ashore in the locality where the objects I have mentioned were found. The bodies are, however, stated to have been discovered at a distance of from two to three leagues from the spot, and beyond the point where parts of the cargo were washed ashore.

It is to be observed that the ship's jolly-boat was found on shore at about one league from the central point I have mentioned. It seems probable that the captain, or others of the crew, were in this boat and steering to the northwards, when they got aground. Near this boat it is stated some bodies were found; but how the bodies of those who,

as far as can be judged, were conveyed in the long-boat and gig could have reached this point, and even the Rio da Baeta, a place much to the northwards, seems to be a matter worthy of the most serious investigation and consideration; and it is to be noted that ten persons would not be conveyed in the jolly-boat.

Under the circumstances I have detailed, it was manifestly the duty of the Sub-Delegate of Police, Senhor Delfino Francisco Gonçalves, to order an immediate inquest on the bodies found, and to have proceeded to the spot to protect the property. It also might have been expected that the Justice of the Peace would have communicated on the 9th the fact of the wreck, and that the Inspector of the district, who states he proceeded to the wreck on the 11th, would on that occasion have sent despatches to the Sub-Delegate of Tahim, and to you; nevertheless, it was only on the 14th that an account that a wreck had taken place reached this city, and even then the nation to which the vessel belonged was not stated: although it cannot be doubted that on the body of the captain and others there would have been papers to prove the nationality, yet all such proofs seem intentionally to have been kept back; and though the vessel was fitted up with much luxury, and it is evident from the remnants found that persons of independent position were on board, there do not appear watches, money, or even a coat or shirt belonging to the captain or passengers.

Viewing the whole circumstances, I regret to come to the conclusion that much of the sad result in this case is attributable to the culpable negligence or connivance of the local authorities, and that information respecting the loss of the barque "Prince of Wales" was intentionally delayed and concealed. I therefore repeat my request that you will adopt every means in your power searchingly to investigate this painful case, and I hope that you will assist in promoting measures to prevent a repetition of the savage and disgraceful scenes which have marked it, as discreditable alike to the Brazilian authorities and to residents upon this coast.

Inclosure 4 in No. 2.

Senhor de Bitancourt to Consul Vereker.

(Translation.)
Sir,

*Delegacy of Police, Rio Grande do Sul,
June 22, 1861.*

ACKNOWLEDGING the receipt of your despatch of the 20th instant, I have to answer that on the 19th I forwarded the convenient orders to the Sub-Delegate of Police of Tahim, not only that he should disinter the bodies of those wrecked from the barque "Prince of Wales," as well as to inquire respecting all in reference to the wreck of the said barque, as you will see by the said despatch which I send you in copy.

As this Delegacy is not competent to proceed against any persons who were the authors or accomplices of so heinous a crime, but yes the Municipal and Commercial Judgeship, to this you ought to apply from this day forth for what may be necessary, being however able to count on the assistance of the police to imprison those who had share in the perpetration of the crime. I proceed to reiterate my orders to the respective Sub-Delegate.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

ANTONIO ESTEVAO DE BITANCOURT E SILVA.

No. 3.

Mr. Layard to Consul Vereker.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 5, 1861.

I AM directed by Lord Russell to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the 25th of June and 5th of July, in which you report the circumstances which attended the wreck of the vessel "Prince of Wales" of Glasgow.

It is evident from your despatches that there has been gross negligence, if not misconduct, on the part of the Brazilian local authorities, and that there is even reason to suspect that the plunder of the cargo, and of the effects of the passengers, and even the murder of some of the survivors from the wreck, have been the result of that negligence.

Lord Russell has instructed Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio, to whom you will doubtless have forwarded copies of your despatches on this subject, to lose no time in calling the attention of the Brazilian Government to this case, and to request that a

searching inquiry may be instituted with a view to the punishment of the parties convicted of negligence, or of being concerned in the plunder of the vessel, and that those who may be convicted of outrages upon those who survived the wreck may be brought to justice.

You will in the meanwhile use your utmost endeavours to procure full information on the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. H. LAYARD.

No. 4.

Mr. Layard to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September 6, 1861.*
I AM directed by Lord Russell to state to you that his Lordship has received from Her Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande do Sul an account of the circumstances under which the vessel "Prince of Wales" of Glasgow was wrecked on the coast of Albardao in Brazil, and from which it appears not only that the local authorities on the coast exhibited gross negligence, if they were not guilty of actual misconduct, but that there are grounds for suspecting that the calamity of the wreck was followed by the plunder of portions of the goods saved from the vessel, and that some of the crew or passengers who may have been saved from the wreck have been unfairly dealt with.

Under these circumstances Lord Russell will by the next mail instruct Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio to request the Brazilian Government to cause a searching investigation to be instituted into all the circumstances of the case, with a view to the punishment of any persons found guilty of such outrages, and Mr. Baillie will also be desired to communicate with the Admiral on the Station in order that, if possible, one of Her Majesty's vessels should proceed to the coast where the wreck occurred, both to assist in the recovery and protection of the property wrecked, and also, if occasion offered, to cooperate in the proposed inquiry.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. H. LAYARD.

No. 5.

Earl Russell to Mr. Baillie.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September 6, 1861.*
YOU will have received from Mr. Consul Vereker an account of the wreck of the vessel "Prince of Wales" of Glasgow on the coast of Albardao, and of the steps taken by him for the recovery of the property saved from the wreck.

It is evident from Mr. Vereker's reports that there has been gross negligence, if not misconduct, on the part of the Brazilian local authorities, and there is even reason to suspect that the plunder of the cargo of the vessel and of the effects of the passengers, and even the murder of some of them who may have survived the wreck of their vessel, have been the result of that negligence.

Should you not have done so already before the receipt of this despatch, you will lose no time in calling the serious attention of the Brazilian Government to this case, and you will request that a strict inquiry may be instituted into the circumstances, and that the parties convicted of such culpable negligence may be suitably punished, and that those who may be convicted of outrage upon the survivors from the wreck may be brought to justice.

You will also communicate with the Admiral commanding Her Majesty's Naval Forces on the station, as it will be desirable that one of Her Majesty's vessels of war should, if possible, visit the coast where the wreck occurred both to assist in the recovery and protection of the property wrecked, and also, if occasion offered, to cooperate in the inquiry which the Brazilian Government will doubtless institute on your communicating with them on this subject.

I inclose a copy of a despatch which I have addressed to Mr. Consul Vereker regarding this case.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 6.

Mr. Stephens to Earl Russell.—(Received September 24.)

*Newry, Dundalk, Drogheda, and Dumfries Screw Steam-packet
Office, 58, Oswald Street, Glasgow, September 20, 1861.*

My Lord,

I BEG to bring to your notice the documents received by the Board of Trade from the British Consul at Rio Grande, relative to the loss of my barque "Prince of Wales," and it is with great pain I have come to the conclusion that my captain and his lady, and the whole crew, have been brutally murdered by the Brazilians, after safely escaping shipwreck. I need hardly say to you, my Lord, the heart-rendings this has caused; the widows of the first and second mates with their families have been driven to the poor-house, and I have lost a faithful and invaluable servant who was about seventeen years in my service; he was a quiet and peaceable man, and the voyage before last discharged a cargo at Bahia. He would not think, I am certain, of carrying any weapons of defence with him.

You will also see the cargo and stores have been plundered, and part of the plunder was found in the Justice's house, who, it was plainly seen, aided and protected the plunderers and murderers.

Under the circumstances I am advised the Brazilian Government are liable in restitution of the cargo and stores, valued at 5,500*l.* (exclusive of the ship), and I hope you will not only insist on payment thereof, but also for the sake of humanity insist on the Brazilian authorities exerting themselves to find out and punish the murderers, so that an example may show that the British Government will not allow their subjects to be robbed and murdered, in any country, with impunity.

Britain may be proud of such a man as Consul Vereker. May he meet the reward he deserves, is the prayer of yours, &c.,

(Signed) R. P. STEPHENS.

No. 7.

Mr. Stephens to Earl Russell.—(Received October 1.)

*Newry, Dundalk, Drogheda, and Dumfries Screw Steam-packet
Office, 58, Oswald Street, Glasgow, September 23, 1861.*

My Lord,

IN addition to the claim already sent you for the stores and goods plundered by the Brazilians, *ex* the "Prince of Wales," near Rio Grande, I omitted to add my claim for the freight of the goods, which amounted to 1,025*l.* 19*s.* It will be satisfactory to the relatives of the murdered crew of this ship if you will inform me what steps are taking in this matter.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) R. P. STEPHENS.

No. 8.

Mr. Layard to Mr. Stephens.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 26, 1861.

I AM directed by Earl Russell to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, stating that you have reason to suppose that the captain of your vessel "Prince of Wales," his wife, and the whole of the crew, after escaping shipwreck, were murdered by the Brazilians; and I am to state to you, in reply, that Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro was instructed by the last mail to address a strong representation to the Brazilian Government respecting the circumstances attending the loss of your vessel.

I am to add that a copy of your letter will be sent to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. H. LAYARD.

No. 9.

Earl Russell to Mr. Baillie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 26, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 6th instant, I inclose, for your information, copies of two further letters from Mr. Stephens on the subject of his claim against the Brazilian Government on account of the wreck of his barque the "Prince of Wales" on the Brazilian coast.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 10.

Mr. Layard to Mr. Stephens.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 4, 1861.

I AM directed by Earl Russell to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd ultimo, respecting your claim to receive compensation from the Brazilian Government in the matter of the wreck of your vessel the "Prince of Wales;" and I am to state to you, in reply, that when an answer is received from the Brazilian Government to the representations which Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires has been instructed to make, his Lordship will be better enabled to consider what further steps can be taken in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. H. LAYARD.

No. 11.

Mr. Stephens to Earl Russell.—(Received October 22.)

*Newry, Dundalk, Drogheda, and Dumfries Screw Steam-packet
Office, 58, Oswald Street, Glasgow, October 19, 1861.*

My Lord,

I HAVE just received a despatch from the Marine Department of Privy Council respecting the late ship "Prince of Wales," and regret again being obliged to trouble your Lordship on this subject; but it is evident to me, the delay in holding an inquest is intentional on the part of the Brazilian Government. Will you therefore please direct your Consul to hold one by British residents? Far be it from me to harrow up further the feelings of the relatives of the captain, his wife, and crew of the ill-fated ship, or bring disgrace upon the Brazilian nation by publishing the accounts of the massacre, which I have hitherto refused to do. If, however, my claims are not at once settled, and an additional sum paid as compensation for the murder of the people, which I hereby authorize your Chargé d'Affaires to fix at Rio de Janeiro, and with which I will be content, and will on receiving the same undertake to relieve them from all claims from this country respecting the plunder and murder, and also refrain from publication of the affair. It will then rest with themselves as a matter of conscience whether they are taking the necessary steps to punish the guilty party.

I may at the same time ask you, my Lord, if you are going to let such a barefaced and wholesale murder and plunder be committed on British property, and allow routine or any cause whatever to defeat justice.

My Lord, I don't think I am asking too much, or more than the exigency of the case requires, that you should at once send in a man of war, and insist at once on restitution, and no more humbugging on the part of the Brazilian authorities, which in this case has been most disgraceful. I have been sending vessels there this last twenty-five years, and had many acts to complain of, but never for a moment dreamt they would murder a whole crew in order to hide their plunder. It is horrible, horrible. I am sick while writing, and hope I will not again have to trouble your Lordship on this matter.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) R. P. STEPHENS.

* Nos. 6 and 7:

Mr. Baillie to Earl Russell.—(Received December 4.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 5, 1861.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 6th of September, I communicated to Senhor Taques, the circumstances connected with the wreck of the "Prince of Wales," of Glasgow, off the coast of Albardao; requesting that a strict inquiry might be instituted with a view to the punishment of the local authorities convicted of negligence, and that those who committed outrages on the survivors might be brought to justice; and his Excellency has informed me that instructions in that sense would be immediately forwarded to the President of the Province.

I also addressed a despatch to Mr. Consul Vereker, requesting him to give me any further information on the subject which he might have received.

Mr. Vereker states that he has not heard from the President what has been the result of the investigation he ordered immediately after the intelligence of the circumstances connected with the wreck had been communicated to his Excellency.

It appears, however, that an Indian named Mariano has been arrested as implicated in the robberies; he is stated to be an employé of Senhor Bento Venancio Soares, the Justice of the Peace of the district of Albardao, and has been a long time in jail; but it is said that no evidence can be obtained against him, the residents on the coast even disobeying the judicial orders to appear as witnesses. Two others, both in the employ of Senhor Soares, are stated to have fled to the Republic of Uruguay. Senhor Soares himself has been examined, but nothing elicited; and Mr. Vereker informs me that he was not given the opportunity of being present at the examination either of this person or of the Indian Mariano.

It is much to be hoped that the Government will punish some of the local authorities, who have been clearly guilty of the most culpable negligence; and I have requested the Admiral to send a ship, if possible, to the coast where the wreck occurred, to assist in the recovery of the property wrecked, and to co-operate in the inquiry which will be instituted; but I much fear that it will be very difficult to convict the real culprits in a country where the administration of justice is extremely faulty, and an acquittal almost invariably granted to those who can pay for it.

I have, &c.

Signed) EVAN P. M. BAILLIE.

P.S.—Since writing the above, I have had an opportunity of speaking to Admiral Warren, who has only arrived here from the River Plate within the last few days, and he informs me that he proposes to send two vessels to lie off the coast of Rio Grande, and to instruct an officer to place himself in communication with Mr. Vereker for the purpose of watching the inquiry, and rendering every assistance in his power.

E. P. M. B.

Consul Vereker to Earl Russell.—(Received December 4.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, October 18, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt Mr. Under-Secretary Layard's despatch of the 6th September last, referring to the lamentable proceedings which took place on the occasion of the wreck of the British barque "Prince of Wales," of Glasgow, upon the coast of Albardao in this province, the neglect of the local authorities being specially reprehensible.

As soon as I became aware of the events which had taken place in connection with the wreck, I communicated with his Excellency the President of this province and with the local authorities, urging a searching investigation into the matter; and have now the honour to inclose copies of my despatches to his Excellency Senhor Antão, and translations of his replies. I also inclosed, under flying seal, to Her Majesty's Mission my despatches on the subject addressed to your Lordship and to the Board of Trade, at the same time suggesting that the case appeared to be one in which a representation to the Brazilian Central Government might properly be made with a view to the punishment of the criminals, and the prevention of such proceedings in future.

I have now further forwarded to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro copies of the principal despatches referring to the wreck, besides giving such additional information as has come to my knowledge.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 13.

Consul Vereker to Senhor Leão.

Rio Grande do Sul, June 20, 1861.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to lay before his Excellency Senhor Joaquim Antão Fernandes Leão, President of this Province, the translation of a despatch which he has this day forwarded to the Delegate of Police of this district* in reference to the scandalous proceedings which took place on the coast of Albardao in connection with the wreck of the British barque "Prince of Wales." The Undersigned invites his Excellency's serious attention to the information conveyed in that despatch, and to the culpable negligence of the local authorities, and trusts his Excellency will adopt efficient measures in the case.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 13.

Senhor Leão to Consul Vereker.

*Palace of the Presidency in Porto Alegre,
June 27, 1861.*

(Translation.)

ACKNOWLEDGING the receipt of the despatch which the Honourable Henry Prendergast Vereker, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in the city of Rio Grande, addressed to me, dated 20th instant, in which he inclosed a copy of that he addressed to the Delegate of Police of the district of the same city, detailing criminal acts practised by the inhabitants of Albardao on the occasion of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales," it becomes my duty to signify to the Consul that precautions have been taken to proceed with all the rigour of the laws against the individuals who robbed the objects cast upon the shore; as well as that it may be known whether the persons who formed the crew of that vessel were or not assassinated, as the Consul presumes: certain that proceedings will also be taken against the authorities of Tahim if, in effect, they omitted immediately to take, as was their duty, the necessary measures to avoid such robberies, being certain that in fit time he will be given the knowledge of the investigations to which, for the present, orders are given to proceed.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JOAQUIM ANTÃO FERNANDES LEÃO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 13.

Consul Vereker to Senhor Leão.

Sir,

Rio Grande do Sul, June 28, 1861.

REFERRING to my note of the 20th instant inclosing the translation of a despatch I had addressed to the Delegate of Police of this city, respecting the proceedings which had taken place on the coast of Albardao, on the occasion of the wreck of the British barque "Prince of Wales," I have the honour, for your Excellency's information, to inclose a copy of the reply received.†

Your Excellency will perceive from these papers that the Delegate of Police, though he acted with prompt energy respecting my application to have the bodies of the unfortunate persons who perished brought to the cemetery of this city, now wishes to throw the responsibility of investigating this serious case upon the Municipal Judge, who on his part seems to consider that it is the police authorities who should conduct the investigation. The result of such disputes is that the guilty parties remain unpunished, and are given time to conceal the proofs of their criminality.

* Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

† Inclosure 4 in No. 2.

I would also observe to your Excellency on the manifest inefficiency of the authorities on the coast of Albardao. Although the orders of the Delegate of Police were positive that the ten bodies which had appeared should be conducted to the cemetery of this city, only four were delivered up and allowed decent burial, and of these three were found in the open plain; yet I had been assured by the Inspector of the district that all had been buried, and that five (including the bodies of two females, and one which appeared to be that of the captain) had been buried in the one spot. It is therefore indubitable that with proper energy the persons in whose presence or by whom they had been buried, could have been found and compelled to point out the place. The non-delivery of those bodies, coupled with the shameless plunder of the cargo, and the rumours existing of violence having been offered to the crew, is a very suspicious circumstance, and shows at least that in such a case the authorities should not have paused in the performance of their duties, and for the honour of Brazil should have searched out the truth.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 13.

Senhor Leão to Consul Vereker.

*Palace of the Presidency in Porto Alegre,
July 11, 1861.*

(Translation.)

THERE has been before me the despatch which Mr. H. P. Vereker, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in the city of Rio Grande, addressed to me on the 28th June last, communicating to me that although the Delegate of Police of the district of that same city had comported himself with promptness and energy respecting his request that the bodies of the unfortunate persons wrecked from the barque "Prince of Wales" should be brought to the same city, there only arrived there four, whilst the respective Inspector of the district had asserted to him that the number of those who had been buried was larger, and that accordingly if the necessary diligence had been employed the result would have been different.

Taking into consideration that exposed by the said Consul, I declare to him that on this occasion I reiterate my orders to the Chief of Police in order to proceed with all energy to search into this fact, according as had been ordered.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JOAQUIM ANTÃO FERNANDES LEAO.

No. 14.

Mr. Stephens to Earl Russell.—(Received January 6.)

My Lord,

58, Oswald Street, Glasgow, January 3, 1862.

I WOULD take it a great favour if you would direct that I should be advised the reply of the Brazilian Government respecting the barque "Prince of Wales" wrecked on the coast of Brazil, of which the crew were murdered on the 6th June last, by to-morrow's post, as the mail leaves the next week, which gives little time for reply should it be necessary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. P. STEPHENS.

No. 15.

Mr. Layard to Mr. Stephens.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 6, 1862.

IN reply to your letter of the 3rd instant I am directed by Lord Russell to inform you that he learns from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in Brazil that an inquiry is being made on the spot into the circumstances of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales" and the murder of her crew on the Brazilian coast; and I am to add that the result of

that inquiry must be awaited before any further steps are taken in the matter, and that you will be informed of that result.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. H. LAYARD.

No. 16.

Mr. Stephens to Earl Russell.—(Received January 8.)

My Lord,

Glasgow, January 7, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of letter of the 6th instant, and beg to inform you that the ship "Prince of Wales," which was lost seven months ago—say on the 6th June, 1861—I have ascertained that the captain, his wife, and crew, landed safely with his boats on the Brazilian territory, with his British flag, chronometer, nautical instruments, log-book, clearance, and his British register in his pocket, with provisions, and all other necessities, except fire-arms or weapons of defence. These were all taken possession of, and the captain and the crew were immediately plundered and murdered, and four of the crew, who escaped about four miles inland, were then murdered and partially plundered, and their nationality, as well as that of the ship, attempted to be destroyed. This was fortunately discovered, after some days, by the British Consul, who also found the captain's Bible, which had been purchased in Glasgow, new, about two months previously (the name of the captain was on the Bible), in the house of the Brazilian "Justice of Peace," whose residence was three miles distant, and the nearest house to the wreck. Said "Justice of Peace" acknowledged to have taken the Bible from the captain's trunk. Therefore the Brazilian authorities can have no delay or difficulty in ascertaining that the crew of the boats, with all the baggage, luggage, &c., &c., were all landed in perfect order and safety, and that they were all barbarously murdered, in the expectation thereby to enjoy the plunder without question. We need hardly refer your Lordship to the law of this country which compels restitution to be made by the country when the wreck is plundered, and I hope you will now see the necessity to urge upon the Charge d'Affaires in Brazil to insist upon instant reparation being made for the loss of the lives, as well as the loss of property. Although our own loss of the captain has been very great indeed, the loss of the people depending upon him and the crew for their support is much greater; and as you will observe a very great deal of delay has been already incurred, we hope you will see fit, for the credit of the British nation, that the matter should now be promptly settled.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. P. STEPHENS.

No. 17.

Mr. Layard to Mr. Stephens.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 11, 1862.

I AM directed by Lord Russell to state to you that his Lordship would be glad to receive from you such evidence and information as you can furnish in support of the statement contained in your letter of the 7th instant, to the effect that the captain of the vessel "Prince of Wales," together with his wife and the crew of the vessel, landed on Brazilian territory after the wreck of the "Prince of Wales," and were subsequently plundered and murdered by the people of the coast.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. H. LAYARD.

No. 18.

Mr. Stephens to Earl Russell.—(Received January 17.)

My Lord,

Glasgow, January 15, 1862.

I AM favoured with your letter of 11th instant, and regret the trouble you have had at this time with the matter of the barque "Prince of Wales," but from the state of that portion of the Brazilian territory it will be necessary now to teach them to

respect the lives of any shipwrecked crew. I had my information from the captain and crew of the schooner "Hound," wrecked in the same gale, near the town of Rio Grande, who saw five of the bodies with knife-cuts and other wounds, and some of them with their heads battered, their clothes rent, and evidence of violent struggles. Three or four had got away a mile or two inland, but were overtaken and killed. This is confirmed by the despatches of the Consul to the Board of Trade, which will satisfy you they all landed safely, with their whole baggage, &c., &c.; not even the paper of their trunk linings wet. If you think it would be necessary, to enable you to understand the matter more clearly, I would gladly go to London any day after this week you could spare time to go into this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) R. P. STEPHENS.

No. 19.

Consul Vereker to Earl Russell.—(Received February 3, 1862.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, December 14, 1861.

REFERRING to my despatch of the 18th October last, and previous ones, regarding the scandalous proceedings which took place on the coast of this province upon the occasion of the wreck of the barque "Prince of Wales," of Glasgow, I have the honour to inclose translations of further correspondence upon this matter which has taken place between this Consulate and the Presidency of this province.

After the receipt of Mr. Under-Secretary Layard's despatch of the 6th September last, I addressed to his Excellency the Acting President my despatch of the 27th of November last, of which I inclose a copy, requesting to know the result of the investigations ordered: the President in his reply of the 1st instant states that he has not received the required informations, but has again demanded them, and will communicate to me the result. Subsequently his Excellency Senhor Correa da Camara, by despatch dated 10th instant, conveys to me the information he has collected, which appears by a despatch from the Chief of Police of the province to his Excellency, a despatch from the Delegate of Police of this city to the Chief of Police, and a further despatch from the Chief of Police to the Delegate of Police of Rio Grande.

Translations of those despatches are inclosed: the most notable are those from the Delegate of Police of this city to the Chief of Police, and from the last-named to the former. The Delegate of Police in his despatch confirms the principal statements made in my previous reports; however, I differ largely from him when he says that the proceedings of the Sub-Delegate of Tahim and of the Inspector of the district cannot be blamed. The former was bound to hold an inquest on the bodies of those that died, and to protect the property—neither of which he did; the latter had to collect such goods as he could in benefit of the Customs, and yet most of the goods which he delivered to me had been taken out of their cases, and there is no real doubt but that those cases were broken by his order, and the goods of least value given up. In making this statement according to my conviction, I feel it right to say I cannot legally prove it; and in the despatch of the Delegate of Police of this city, whom I believe to be an honourable man anxious to perform his duty, it will be seen that when the authorities of the country cannot obtain proofs of that which is well known, the difficulty with the Representative of another Government will be yet greater.

In conclusion, I would respectfully observe that in my opinion the inquiry instituted into this case has, as far as I am informed of it, been meagre and insufficient; no investigation seems to have been made to ascertain whether any violence had been offered to the crew, and yet this was surely a most serious part of the case: besides it is not shown that active measures were taken to prevent the flight of some engaged in the plunder of the cargo, or to bring to justice those wealthy inhabitants of the coast whom the Delegate of Police does not hesitate to point to as the principal criminals.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 19.

Consul Vereker to Senhor da Camara.

Sir,

Rio Grande do Sul, November 27, 1861.

HER Majesty's Government being desirous to obtain the fullest information respecting the plunder of the cargo and other objects of the British barque "Prince of Wales" wrecked on the coast of Albardao, as mentioned in my despatches to the Presidency of the 20th and 28th June last, and it being specially important to ascertain whether violence was offered to any of the crew, I have the honour to request that your Excellency may be so good as to communicate to this Consulate the results hitherto obtained in consequence of the orders of the Presidency energetically to inquire into this very serious case, and the probability which may exist of discovering and punishing the guilty parties.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 19.

*Senhor da Camara to Consul Vereker.**Palace of the Presidency in Porto Alegre,**December 1, 1861.*

(Translation.)

IN possession of the despatch which the Honourable Henry Prendergast Vereker, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in the city of Rio Grande, addressed to me on the 27th of November last, I have to signify to him that as my predecessor had ordered that the necessary investigations respecting the facts which had occurred in connection with the robbery of the cargo and other articles of the British barque "Prince of Wales" should be proceeded with, and as such informations have not yet been received on this occasion, I recommend the Chief of Police to give information of the result of the investigations he was ordered to make; and as quickly as they are given to me I shall bring them to the knowledge of the same Consul, to whom on this occasion I renew, &c.

(Signed)

PATRICIO CORREA DA CAMARA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 19.

*Senhor da Camara to Consul Vereker.**Palace of the Presidency in Porto Alegre,**December 10, 1861.*

(Translation.)

IN accordance with what I promised in the despatch which, on the 1st instant, I addressed to the Honourable Henry Prendergast Vereker, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in the city of Rio Grande, I transmit to the same Consul a copy of the despatch of the Chief of Police of this province, dated the 5th of this month, and other papers which accompany it, giving information regarding the state of the process which was ordered to be instituted respecting the robbery of the goods saved from the barque "Prince of Wales."

By the communications referred to the same Consul will recognize that every effort ("diligencias") has been employed to advance the respective process, but have not been successful in view of the causes which the Delegate of Police of the district of the city of Rio Grande points out. In the meantime the Chief of Police again recommends him, notwithstanding that the accused compromised in that robbery have escaped ("tem se evadidos"), that even so he should include them in the process; and that, once condemned, he should send him a certificate of the condemnation, and a note of the characteristic signs of each, in order that they may be followed, besides other measures appearing from his despatch, a copy of which I also send to the Consul mentioned, to whom on this occasion I renew, &c.

(Signed)

PATRICIO CORREA DA CAMARA.

Inclosure 4 in No. 19.

Senhor Callado to Senhor da Camara.(Translation.)
Sir,*Secretaryship of the Police in Porto Alegre,
December 5, 1861.*

THE Delegate of Police of the district of Rio Grande, whom on the 3rd of September of this year I ordered to give me information of the state of the process ordered to be instituted respecting the robbery of the goods saved of the English barque "Prince of Wales," as your Excellency's predecessor had recommended to me by despatch of the 2nd of the same month, gave me the information adjoined by despatch dated the 18th of said month, pointing out the difficulties with which he contends, and the want of means to conclude as quickly as recommended the process mentioned, showing even the impediments which prevented him from knowing the real culprits, as the persons who were said or suspected to be involved in that robbery had passed to the Oriental State. To that despatch I gave the reply appearing from the copy No. 2, on the which, not having to the present date a solution, I proceed again to send a despatch to the authority referred to, requiring a rapid solution of this question, which I shall bring to the knowledge of your Excellency immediately when it comes to my hands.

This is the information which for the present I can give to your Excellency in compliance with your despatches of the 1st and 3rd instant.

(Signed) DARIO RAFAEL CALLADO.

Inclosure 5 in No. 19.

Senhor Garcez to Senhor Callado.(Translation.)
Sir,*Rio Grande do Sul, September 18, 1861.*

REPLYING to your despatch of the 3rd instant, in which you order me to give information respecting the state in which is the process which was directed to be instituted about the robbery of the goods saved from the English barque "Prince of Wales," it is my duty to assure you that I have adopted every measure, I have done everything possible for the advancement of that process, which it is not possible to advance, seeing that it being necessary to have the depositions of witnesses to form the accusation against the only culprit who is in jail, this cannot be obtained, because having ordered three times that various persons of the Albardao and neighbourhood should be notified to appear in this city they all refused, they did not appear before the officer of justice, pretending that they were sick; some who may know something have absented themselves to the Oriental State; others who are known to be criminals have permanently fled for that neighbouring State, so that I have not been able to advance that process, to the injury of the unfortunate person (perhaps the least guilty of all) who is imprisoned without seeing an end to this process, which, with attention to the difficulties with which I contend and the absence of resources for these investigations, &c., &c., I do not know when it will be ended. It results from the inquiries to which the Sub-Delegate of Tahim proceeded, that the prisoner Mariano Pinto brought to his house manufactured goods which he met with on the shore, and that, having them spread out in his house, they were apprehended by the Inspector when he passed there on this investigation; it is not proved that there was violence, or that Mariano Pinto broke open the cases which contained manufactured goods, which were merely met with in his house: in view of this I consult you whether I can concede bail to that prisoner in order that he should be released and thus await the result of this tiresome process. The cargo of the barque was all sacked. Mariano Pinto and Manuel Maria Rodrigues (who fled for the Oriental State) were not the only ones who robbed it; it is known that many of the inhabitants, perhaps the wealthiest of the place, are devoted to this industry, but against these no proofs appear—there will be no witnesses who would depose against them. With regard to the notice of the wreck having been spread on the 9th of June, and its being officially known in this city on the 14th, this cannot be attributed otherwise than to the circumstance that the Inspector resides more than six leagues from the place of the casualty, and the Sub-Delegate of Tahim as much or more, and that those authorities only knew of the wreck after the inhabitants of the more neighbouring parts, interested in concealing it, having robbed almost all, communicated it to them, as has been the custom to practise in other epochs and in identical circumstances, as I had the occasion of verifying respecting that wreck in which it was only on the 11th day of the month of June that the Inspector,

having on the previous evening notice of the wreck, proceeded to the shore, ordering, at that date, to participate to the Sub-Delegate of Tahim, who communicated that which had happened respecting the wreck to the Delegate of this city on the 14th. In view that there is no reason to blame either the Inspector or the Sub-Delegate, and that the residents are alone criminal, whom there are no means of prosecuting in consequence of the absolute want of proofs which only appear against the unfortunate Indian Mariano Pinto, in my idea one of the less guilty because he did not hide the thing robbed, and immediately gave it up to the Inspector who claimed it.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

ANTONIO FERREIRA GARCEZ.

Inclosure 6 in No. 19.

Senhor Callado to Senhor Garcez.

*Secretaryship of the Police in Porto Alegre,
September 21, 1861.*

(Translation.)

IN answer to your despatch dated the 18th instant, respecting the moroseness under which the process instituted against the robbers of the goods saved from the English barque "Prince of Wales" proceeds, I have to point out to you that as that process should terminate, and the reluctance of the witnesses to come before Court cannot serve as a motive to delay it, you should make use of the resources of the law, ordering them to appear under the rod of justice ("debaixo da vara"). It does not matter that the accused most compromised in that robbery have escaped; it befits to include them in the process, and, once condemned, you ought to send me a certificate of the condemnation, and a note of the characteristic signs of each one in order to cause them to be followed. With regard to Mariano Pinto, he can only be bailed if the denouncement was of a crime in which bail is allowed, because in the contrary case he should await the declaration of the sentence, or should use the resource of *habeas corpus* if he were illegally imprisoned.

Finally if the witnesses should refuse to swear the truth against the wealthy inhabitants of the locality of the wreck who, according to your opinion, are the principal criminals, shown guilty of perjury they ought as such to be processed, it being necessary determinately to show ("determinar") to the Sub-Delegate of Tahim, and to the Inspector of the district, that they should investigate where the articles robbed remain and who detain them, in order that they may be brought to judgment; you informing me of the progress of the process in order to give an account to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, which urgently presses ("insta") for the result.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

DARIO RAFAEL CALLADO.

No. 20.

Mr. Baillie to Earl Russell.—(Received February 3.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 6, 1862.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 5th of November, respecting the wreck of the "Prince of Wales" off the coast of Albardao, in which I stated that I had requested the Admiral Commander-in-chief on this station to send a ship, if possible, to the coast where the wreck occurred, or a naval officer to be present at the inquiries about to be instituted, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that it was deemed advisable by the Admiral, upon further consideration, not to take any steps of that kind before having Mr. Vereker's opinion as to the advantages that would be likely to result from the presence of such an officer and the time when he should arrive at his destination.

I accordingly wrote to Mr. Consul Vereker on the subject, and I have now the honour to inclose his reply, from which your Lordship will see that he does not think that the presence of a British officer would have a beneficial effect, unless the manner of the inquiry were altered in consequence of instructions from the Brazilian Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

EVAN P. M. BAILLIE.

Inclosure in No. 20.

Consul Vereker to Mr. Baillie.

Sir,

Rio Grande do Sul, December 2, 1861.

IN reply to your despatch of the 20th ultimo, I have the honour to state that I do not think that the presence of a British Naval officer at the inquiry, as now conducted, into circumstances attending the wreck of the barque "Prince of Wales," would have beneficial effect; but if the manner of the inquiry were altered in consequence of instructions from the Brazilian Government, it is not unlikely that the presence of such an officer might be advisable. As soon as the nature of the further inquiry now proposed is manifested, I shall have the honour again to communicate with you on the subject of your despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

No. 21.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Layard.—(Received February 5.)

Sir,

Admiralty, February 4, 1862.

WITH reference to your letter of the 6th September last, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of Earl Russell, a copy of a letter dated 23rd December last, from Rear-Admiral Warren, respecting the wreck of the "Prince of Wales," of Glasgow, on the coast of Albardao, in Brazil, and stating that there appears to be little doubt that the vessel was plundered and the crew unfairly dealt with.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure in No. 21.

Rear-Admiral Warren to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

"Forte," at Sea, Lat. 27° 56' S., Long. 46° 37' W.,
December 23, 1861.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your letter of the 7th September, 1861, inclosing the copy of a letter from Her Majesty's Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, respecting the wreck of the merchant-vessel "Prince of Wales," of Glasgow, on the coast of Albardao in Brazil, and desiring me to put myself in communication with Mr. Baillie, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio, on the subject; I have now the honour to acquaint you, for their Lordships' information, that having communicated with Mr. Baillie, and received from him the details forwarded by Mr. Vereker, the Consul at Rio Grande do Sul, on the subject of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales," there appears to be little doubt that the vessel was plundered, and the crew unfairly dealt with.

2. Having no vessel of sufficiently light draught to cross the bar at the Rio Grande, I offered to send an officer to assist at the investigation, if it was thought he could be of service. Mr. Baillie has since acquainted me that Mr. Vereker is of opinion that in the present state of the inquiry it is not necessary. I have consequently given up the intention, but when I can command the services of a vessel of war that can pass the bar of Rio Grande with safety, I shall send her to communicate with Her Majesty's Consul there.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RICHD. WARREN.

Earl Russell to Mr. Baillie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 8, 1862.

YOU will have received from Mr. Consul Vereker a copy of his despatch to me of the 14th of December, reporting the result of his correspondence with the Provincial authorities regarding the case of the wreck of the vessel "Prince of Wales."

I cannot consider the explanations which have been given by the Brazilian authorities in this matter as being satisfactory, and I concur in the opinion which Mr. Vereker has expressed as to the culpability of the authorities of the district, and as to the insufficiency of the inquiry instituted, considering the serious nature of the case. Under these circumstances I have to refer you to the instructions conveyed in my despatch of the 6th of September last, and to desire you to state to the Brazilian Government that Her Majesty's Government expect that a more searching investigation shall be instituted, with a view to the punishment of the parties actually concerned in the outrage, and of the local authorities who may be convicted of negligence in dealing with the case, as also with a view to adequate compensation to the owners of the vessel, whose property, by the admission of the Brazilian authorities themselves, has been plundered or wantonly destroyed, and to the surviving relatives of those who may be proved to have been murdered.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 23.

Consul Vereker to Earl Russell.—(Received March 5, 1862.)

(Extract.)

Rio Grande do Sul, December 31, 1861.

WITH regard to that part of my account current with the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury which refers to expenses incurred for the discovery of the bodies of those persons who were wrecked from the barque "Prince of Wales," and for the inquests upon and burial of the same bodies, I would respectfully observe that in my despatch of the 5th July last I applied for special authority in regard to those expenses, as it did not appear that they could properly be chargeable to the Board of Trade, not only from the peculiar character of the case, but from the absence of proof that those buried were seamen; and from the salvage of the vessel the balance was trifling.

I may be permitted to observe that, as the expenses referred to were caused by the neglect of the Brazilian authorities to hold the required inquests, and to provide for the proper burial of those wrecked, it is probable that those expenses might justly be claimed from the Brazilian Government.

Under those circumstances I have the honour again to request your Lordship's approval of the expenses as shown by the account and incurred by me in this serious case.

No. 24.

Earl Russell to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 14, 1862.

I INCLOSE an extract of a despatch from Mr. Consul Vereker* respecting the expenses which he has incurred in connexion with the inquests held on the bodies of the crew of the "Prince of Wales," which, as appears from the account, amount to 32*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.*

It seems to me that the Brazilian Government ought properly to repay this money, and if you are of the same opinion you will bring the matter before them.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

Consul Vereker to Earl Russell.—(Received June 3.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, March 20, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a despatch received from his Excellency the Acting President of this Province, transmitting copies of despatches from the Chief of Police and from the Municipal Judge and Delegate of Police of this city, in reference to the plunder of the cargo of the barque "Prince of Wales."

These papers throw but little additional light on the subject, but the despatch of the Delegate of Police seems to point to a combination or understanding among the inhabitants of the coast not to give information in the case, which course, far from implying their innocence, seems rather to designate mutual guilt.

I have taken the liberty to delay the transmission of these papers, as I was anxious to forward at the same time copies of the reports of inquest held on the coast of Albardao and at the cemetery of this city upon the bodies of those wrecked; but notwithstanding all my efforts, I have not yet been able to obtain from the Brazilian authorities copies of those reports.

In the report of the examination of the bodies on the coast, among other allegations not creditable to the local residents, it is stated by those appointed to examine the body of one of the unfortunate persons from the wreck that he was strangled. Such statements may account for the unwillingness of the authorities to give the required information, and possibly for the limited nature of the inquiry instituted, as there seems to exist a fear that under a more searching investigation disclosures might be made which would throw discredit on the country.

If this is so (I put the suggestion forward only hypothetically), it shows on the part of the local authorities either a culpable sympathy with evil-doers, or a want of moral courage which is highly reprehensible.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 25.

Senhor da Camara to Consul Vereker.

*Palace of the Presidency in Porto Alegre,
December 28, 1861.*

(Translation.)

IN addition to the despatch which on the 10th instant I addressed to the Honourable H. P. Vereker, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in the city of Rio Grande, I transmit to him on this occasion a copy of the despatch which I have just received from the Chief of Police of this province, dated the 27th of this same month, accompanied by another of the Delegate of Police of that city, giving an account of the difficulties he has met with in concluding the process instituted against the robbers of the goods saved from the barque "Prince of Wales," and of its present state.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) PATRICIO CORREA DA CAMARA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 25.

Senhor Callado to Senhor da Camara.

*Secretaryship of Police in Porto Alegre,
December 29, 1861.*

(Translation.)

Sir,

IN execution of your Excellency's despatches of the 1st and 3rd instant, I pass to your hands the inclosed copy of the despatch of the Municipal Judge and Delegate of Police of the district of Rio Grande, dated the 19th of this month, giving an account of the difficulties he has met with in concluding the process instituted against the robbers of the goods saved from the English barque "Prince of Wales;" it being my duty to intimate to your Excellency that at this date I give new orders to the authority referred to that he should make the process to take its course against the accused, who are vagabonds; having, nevertheless, to consider that the local conditions

impede the regular administration of justice, inasmuch as the wreck of that barque took place on a desert and inhospitable shore, with easy transit to foreign territory.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

DARIO RAFAEL CALLADO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 25.

Senhor Garcez to Senhor Callado.

(Translation.)

Sir,

City of Rio Grande, December 19, 1861.

ANSWERING your despatch dated the 5th instant, in which you order me to declare as soon as possible the result of the process instituted against the robbers of the goods saved from the English barque "Prince of Wales," it is my duty to declare to you that all the investigations to know who had been the robbers of those goods having been unfruitful, and one on whom rested suspicions having succeeded in escaping to the Oriental State, and another, Manoel Maria Rodriguez, who was met with having articles of those goods saved, and who immediately fled without it being possible to succeed in taking him, I instituted the process against one only, Mariano Pinto, native of Buenos Ayres, who also was found with articles in his house. The difficulty of making the witnesses residing on the coast of Albardao to come to this city, it being necessary for me, in order to advance with the process, to notify some of those residents who perchance might appear in the city; the repugnance which these residents have to appear before judicial authority; the fear of being reckoned as accomplices in that robbery of the goods saved from the barque; the want of resources forcibly to make them come to give evidence,—all this delayed Mariano Pinto's process to this day, and barely now has it to come to an end. And in view of what I have exposed to you, you will know what is the result of the process instituted against the robbers of the goods saved from the English barque "Prince of Wales." All the criminals remaining summed up in Mariano Pinto, the only one who could be processed; and on this occasion it is my duty to declare to you that I used every diligence to know of some other persons who may have robbed the cargo of the English barque; but all was unsuccessful: it resulting thence that the real robbers will remain perhaps unpunished, without Justice having means to discover and process them.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

ANTONIO FERREIRA GARCEZ,
Municipal Judge, First Substitute of the Delegate.

No. 26.

Consul Vereker to Earl Russell.—(Received June 3.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, April 14, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following observations, showing my proceedings to this day in connection with the arrival at this port of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Sheldrake," conveying on board Captain Saumarez, of Her Majesty's frigate "Forte," who had been nominated to co-operate with me in regard to any inquiry which the Brazilian authorities might, on a renewed demand, institute into the circumstances attending the wreck of the British barque "Prince of Wales."

The gun-boat "Sheldrake" arrived in this port on the 31st instant, and Captain Saumarez communicated the object of his coming, of which I had, on the 29th ultimo, received information by Mr. Christie's despatch of the 18th ultimo, of which a copy is inclosed.

I suggested to Captain Saumarez that the only effective inquiry which could now be adopted would be one conducted at the locality of the wreck, superintended by a Brazilian functionary of sufficient authority, and accompanied by a sufficient force to command respect; and that it would be advisable to request his Excellency the President, Senhor Francisco de Assis Pereira Rocha, to order such an inquiry as soon as possible. I also pointed out that there was no authority at Rio Grande who would act in the matter without previously receiving instructions from the Presidency. Captain Saumarez quite concurred in these views, and offered to accompany me to the coast to assist in such an inquiry should it be instituted.

As there was no opportunity at the time to send despatches by the ordinary convey-

ances to the capital, Porto Alegre, where the President resides, and the sending by express overland would be uncertain and might cause delay, it was determined to proceed in the "Sheldrake" to Porto Alegre, so that Captain Saumarez and myself might personally call the President's attention to the pending question, under circumstances apparently the best calculated to insure compliance with the request for a full and searching inquiry into this case.

The "Sheldrake," on board of which I had embarked, left this port on the 4th instant, and reached Porto Alegre on the 6th. I immediately addressed to his Excellency the President my note of that date, requesting him to name a time to receive Captain Saumarez and myself. I inclose a copy of this note, and received in reply his Excellency's courteous letter of the same date. It will be perceived that he makes therein no mention of receiving Captain Saumarez.

Notwithstanding the apparent inadvertency above mentioned, it seemed important that Captain Saumarez should be recognized by the authorities of this country as holding a special position in connection with the investigation contemplated, as the proceedings might thus have more impressiveness and authority. It will accordingly be seen that in the interviews which took place on the 6th and 7th instants, this question formed part of the subject-matter of the conversation, of which I inclose memoranda.

At the first interview his Excellency Senhor Rocha intimated that he had received no information since taking charge of the Presidency upon the case of the barque "Prince of Wales," and that no communication had reached him from the Brazilian Government respecting the service on which Captain Saumarez was engaged. When the urgency of an investigation in the locality of the wreck was pointed out to his Excellency, he seemed unwilling to express an opinion at the time; and in order that there should be no appearance of pressure, I suggested that Captain Saumarez and myself would wait upon him when his Excellency should have had leisure to inform himself fully on the case, and this course was agreed upon.

At the interview on the 7th instant his Excellency, having apparently become better informed of the circumstances, declared in effect that he would direct the Chief of Police to undertake a searching inquiry into the case, but that Captain Saumarez could not be recognized as having any connection therewith in an official capacity.

I caused the memoranda (Nos. 5 and 6) to be read over both to his Excellency the President and to Captain Saumarez, and subsequently supplied them with copies; and both parties declared that they formed a correct summary of the conversations referred to.

Subsequently to the interview above reported, the Secretary to the Provincial Government, who was present throughout, informed me that it had been ordered that a Brazilian steamer should be ready to go to Pelotas, where the Chief was at the time, to convey the necessary instructions in the case; and on the following morning (8th instant) his Excellency the President stated to me that the Chief of Police would be directed to come to an understanding ("entender-se") with me before entering upon the required inquiry, in order that I might have an opportunity of attending the same.

On the 8th instant his Excellency Senhor Rocha courteously returned (on board Her Majesty's gun-boat "Sheldrake") the official visits which Captain Saumarez and myself had paid them.

I have the honour to inclose the copy of a despatch dated the 8th instant, which I received from Captain Saumarez, requesting to know whether, under the circumstances which had occurred, I considered his services would be further needful. I also inclose a copy of my reply, intimating that if Captain Saumarez considered that he could consistently with his instructions, accompany me to the locality of the wreck to co-operate in the promised inquiry, even though he were not recognized in an official capacity by the Brazilian authorities, I hoped he would await for a limited time to ascertain the decision of those authorities. Captain Saumarez replied verbally that he did not consider himself precluded from accompanying me in the manner suggested. Accordingly I felt it right to inform his Excellency the President of this circumstance, in order that there might be no delay in commencing the inquiry. I beg to inclose a copy of my despatch to his Excellency.

Her Majesty's gun-boat "Sheldrake" returned to this port on the 9th instant. On the 10th instant the Chief of Police arrived in this city. I visited him, and he returned the compliment; but as I did not meet him there was no opportunity of discovering whether he had received any instructions from the Presidency regarding the case of the barque "Prince of Wales." It may, however, be presumed that he had not, as he proceeded to Porto Alegre on the 11th instant, and no steamer had been despatched thence to Pelotas, as was expected.

I have the honour to observe that, throughout the occurrences reported, both Captain Saumarez and myself have maintained the utmost reserve regarding the object of his visit. I regret, however, to state that rumours that it is in connection with the case of the barque "Prince of Wales" have reached this city from Porto Alegre, and have been published. I therefore fear, especially in view of the delay which is taking place, that the persons implicated will have the opportunity to conceal many vestiges of their scandalous and inhuman proceedings on the occasion of the wreck.

I feel it right to remark that I have received much assistance from Captain Saumarez, who has been acting in perfect harmony with me, showing a desire to adopt the various suggestions which I have thought it my duty to propose, in order that no effort may be omitted to discover the truth regarding the painful questions which have rendered his presence here advisable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 26.

Captain Saumarez to Consul Vereker.

Sir, "Sheldrake," Rio Grande do Sul, April 3, 1862.

HAVING this day arrived in Her Majesty's gun-boat "Sheldrake," with instructions to co-operate with you in the inquiry relative to the wreck of the British barque "Prince of Wales," and the English Minister at Rio having informed the Brazilian Government that an officer would be sent round here for that purpose, I have the honour to request you will be pleased to inform the authorities of my arrival for the above purpose, and you may depend on my affording you every assistance and most cordially co-operating with you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. SAUMAREZ.

Inclosure 2 in No. 26.

Mr. Christie to Consul Vereker.

Sir, Petropolis, March 18, 1862.

I INCLOSE you a copy of a despatch which has been received from Earl Russell on the subject of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales." I have addressed a note, in accordance with its contents, to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs; and I have requested Admiral Warren to send one of the gun-boats now under his command to Rio Grande do Sul, with an officer capable of giving you useful aid. I have informed the Brazilian Government of my request to Admiral Warren; and have stated that the naval officer who may be sent will, according to the wish of Her Majesty's Government, be ready to co-operate in any inquiry which may be instituted, if the Brazilian Government should wish it.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 26.

Consul Vereker to Senhor Rocha.

Porto Alegre, April 6, 1862.

THE Undersigned, the Honourable Henry Prendergast Vereker, Doctor of Laws, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande do Sul, has the honour to inform his Excellency Senhor Desembargador Francisco de Assis Pereira Rocha, President of the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, that Captain Saumarez, of Her Majesty's frigate "Forte," of 51 guns, has arrived in this port in Her Majesty's gun-boat "Sheldrake," on special service, and desires to be received by your Excellency. The Undersigned also desires to pay his respects to your Excellency. Under these circumstances, the Undersigned requests your Excellency will please to appoint an hour to receive Captain Saumarez and the Undersigned, and that this may be at your Excellency's earliest convenience.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 26.

Senhor Rocha to Consul Vereker.

(Translation.)

Mr. Consul,

*Palace of the Presidency in Porto Alegre,**April 6, 1862.*

ACKNOWLEDGING the receipt of your despatch of this day, I have to answer to you that, with the greatest satisfaction, I will receive you to-day at 4 o'clock in the evening, or to-morrow at any hour which may be most convenient to you.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) FRANCISCO DE ASSIS PEREIRA ROCHA.

Inclosure 5 in No. 26.

*Memorandum of a Conversation which took place on the 6th of April, 1862, between
Senhor Rocha, Captain Saumarez, and Consul Vereker.*

CAPTAIN SAUMAREZ suggested that it had been communicated by the British Mission to the Brazilian Government that an officer would be sent down here to assist in an inquiry, and wished to know whether the President had received any information on the subject.

The President replied that since his arrival he had received none.

The Consul observed that the communication suggested should probably have reached by one of the last two mails from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, or of the "Empire."

The President repeated that he had received no communication such as that referred to.

The Consul perceiving that there were various persons at the door within hearing, pointed out that the conversation ought to be carried on in a more private manner; and the President agreeing, conducted him, as well as Captain Saumarez and Dr. Mello Mattos, into an inner room.

Captain Saumarez, before explaining the object of his visit, hinted to the President an inquiry as to whether he desired Dr. Mello Mattos, the only other person present, to remain; and as his Excellency offered no objection, Dr. Mattos remained.

The Consul then, at Captain Saumarez's request, proceeded to explain the object of that officer's arrival, in connection with the circumstances attending the wreck of the British barque "Prince of Wales," and stated the readiness of Captain Saumarez to assist in any measures which the President might adopt thoroughly to investigate the case.

The President replied that his attention had not previously been called to the case, and that he was not informed of the particulars; and after more conversation on the same theme, the Consul, for his Excellency's information, gave a brief summary of the proceedings which had taken place up to the present time, remarking that the former proposed inquiry into the cause of the deaths of the crew and the plunder of the cargo had resolved itself into a mere prosecution of Mariano Pinto and Francisco Maria Rodriguez; that no efficient investigation into the cause of the deaths of the crew had taken place; that five of the bodies of those persons had not been delivered up, on the false pretext that the place where they were said to be buried could not be found in consequence of territorial changes; and that no part of the cargo had been recovered excepting the insignificant portion delivered by Faustino José da Silveira. Finally, the Consul manifested his own opinion that an inquiry, to be really effective, should take place at the locality under some independent authority, with a force sufficient to impose respect; and under those circumstances he requested to know the President's determination in the case.

The President appeared to desire to consider the question more fully; and as his Excellency had other pressing engagements, the Consul suggested that if his Excellency so wished, he would wait upon his Excellency at another time; and that there were also other matters, unconnected with this case, to which he wished to call the attention of the Head of the Provisional Government.

His Excellency replied that a postponement would be convenient, Dr. Callado, the Chief of Police, having lately returned to Pelotas; and he appointed at 11 o'clock A.M. on the following day to receive Captain Saumarez and Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, in order to communicate his resolution in the case.

Inclosure 6 in No. 26.

Memorandum of a Conversation held on the 7th of April, 1862, between Senhor Rocha, Captain Saumarez, and Consul Vereker.

THE Consul, acting with and interpreting for Captain Saumarez, requested to know from the President whether he had formed any decision respecting the inquiry proposed the previous day into the circumstances attending the wreck of the "Prince of Wales."

The President replied that he was now more informed of the case, and that he was ready to order a full investigation by the Chief of Police, who was now at Pelotas; that he considered the most important inquiry would be into the manner of death of the crew, but that it would be difficult to find proofs in consequence of the time that had elapsed.

Captain Saumarez asked whether there was any doubt as to the plunder of the cargo, and the President and the Secretary of Government, who was present, replied that there was not.

The President proceeded to say that although no objection could be placed to Mr. Vereker the Consul assisting in the inquiry, Captain Saumarez could not be recognized as holding an official capacity in the matter.

The Consul pointed out the circumstances under which Captain Saumarez had arrived, and expressed a doubt as to whether he (the Consul) should properly proceed to the coast to assist in the inquiry unless with Captain Saumarez recognized in his official capacity; and the Consul further observed that he had presented Captain Saumarez officially, and that he had confirmed the statement that a communication showing his object here had been made on the part of the British Mission to the Brazilian Government.

The President repeated that he had received no communication on the subject from the Brazilian Government, and that until he received orders from them he could not recognize Captain Saumarez as having authority to act officially in the province.

Captain Saumarez said he did not wish to perform authoritative acts, but to assist and be present.

The President added that he recognized Captain Saumarez as an officer, but not as having connection with the investigation proposed, but that he would be ready to wait for the instructions which he might receive on the matter from the Brazilian Government.

The Consul, in conclusion, observed that it would rest wholly in his Excellency's discretion whether he would order an immediate inquiry or wait for the instructions referred to, and he pointed out the probability that if there were any delay the inhabitants of the coast would be forewarned, and would consequently defeat the object of the inquiry.

The conversation then turned to other matters.

Before separating, his Excellency the President stated that there would be no objection to Captain Saumarez attending the inquiry proposed and obtaining all possible information, but that he could not be recognized as possessing any official capacity in regard to the said investigation unless the Brazilian Government should so determine.

Inclosure 7 in No. 26.

Captain Saumarez to Consul Vereker.

Sir;

"Sheldrake," Porto Alegre, April 8, 1862.

AFTER the conversations with his Excellency the President, in which he assures us that he will order a strict and searching inquiry into the loss and plunder of the British barque "Prince of Wales," in which he admits there is not the slightest shadow of doubt that the cargo was plundered by Brazilian subjects in this province, and that the Chief of Police will be ordered to ascertain the causes of the deaths of the captain, his wife, and crew, and his Excellency stating he cannot recognize me in any official capacity in such inquiry, but that he would not object to my being present, it now remains with you to inform me if you have further need of my services, or if I can in any way further co-operate in any inquiry which may be instituted.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. SAUMAREZ.

Inclosure 8 in No. 26.

Consul Vereker to Captain Saumarez.

Sir, "Sheldrake," Porto Alegre, April 8, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated this day, in which you request me to inform you whether your services are further required in connection with the inquiry which his Excellency the President of this province has stated he would immediately order the Chief of Police to conduct respecting the wreck of the barque "Prince of Wales."

In reply, I have to inform you that his Excellency Senhor Pereira Rocha, the President, declared to me that he would direct the Chief of Police, in the first instance, to come to an understanding with me regarding the inquiry to be instituted. It seems probable that any inquiry now attempted would take place at the locality of the wreck, and in the event of your considering that you could, consistently with your instructions and official position, attend such an investigation, notwithstanding your not being recognized by the Brazilian authorities as having any official capacity in connection therewith, I am of opinion it would be beneficial that you should do so; as the presence of a British naval officer of your rank could not fail to exercise an useful influence, and as I would probably assist in an investigation carried on in your presence, your co-operating with me on the occasion would no doubt strengthen my means of discovering the truth.

Under these circumstances, I would trust that you will await the communication which, in compliance with orders from the Presidency, may be made to the British Consulate; provided there should be no excessive procrastination on the part of the Brazilian authorities in communicating to this Consulate their intentions regarding the proposed inquiry.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 9 in No. 26.

Consul Vereker to Senhor Rocha.

Sir, "Sheldrake," Porto Alegre, April 8, 1862.

I FEEL it right to transmit to your Excellency a copy of the Memorandum I had drawn out respecting the conversations which Captain Saumarez, R.N., and myself had the honour to hold with your Excellency on the 6th and 7th instant, the Memorandum having been already read over to your Excellency and found correct.

Subsequently to the interviews referred to, as your Excellency expressed readiness to direct the Chief of Police to institute the proposed inquiry without delay, and previously to come to an understanding with this Consulate on the subject, I requested to know from Captain Saumarez whether under his instructions he could accompany me on that inquiry, though not recognized by the Brazilian authorities as possessing any official capacity in connection therewith; and it appears that he can do so.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency of this circumstance, as I should desire, with Captain Saumarez, to accompany the Chief of Police.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

No. 27.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received June 3.)

My Lord, Rio de Janeiro, May 5, 1862.

I ACTED on the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 8th of February, addressed to Mr. Baillie, by writing a note to Senhor Taques, of which I inclose a copy, stating that Her Majesty's Government expected that a more searching investigation should be made by the Brazilian Government into the circumstances attending the wreck of the "Prince of Wales" off the coast of Rio Grande do Sul in June of last year, with a view to the punishment of the offenders, and of any local authorities convicted of negligence, and also with a view to suitable indemnities.

I also addressed a letter to the Admiral who commands on this station, requesting him to send a gun-boat to Rio Grande do Sul, and with it an officer of sufficient rank and experience to give effective aid to Mr. Consul Vereker. And your Lordship will perceive that in the inclosed note to M. Taques I mentioned that I had made this request of the Admiral, and I offered the services of the naval officer whom he might send, for co-operation, if the Brazilian Government would accept it, in the further inquiry which I demanded.

Admiral Warren, without delay, sent Her Majesty's gun-boat "Sheldrake" to Rio Grande do Sul, accompanied by Her Majesty's ship "Oberon," carrying his Flag-Captain, Captain Saumarez, to consult and co-operate with Mr. Consul Vereker.

I received by this packet a despatch dated April 14 from Mr. Consul Vereker to your Lordship, reporting his proceedings subsequent to the arrival of Captain Saumarez, and your Lordship will see that the President of the province had promised to order an inquiry; that he had, in the absence of instructions from Rio, declined to admit Captain Saumarez to co-operate, but that he had made no opposition to his presence with Mr. Consul Vereker at the inquiry to be made. It appeared likely that Captain Saumarez would prolong his stay in order to accompany Mr. Consul Vereker, unofficially, in attendance at the promised inquiry, and it is to be hoped that he has stayed.

I have now received from M. Taques a note, of which I inclose a translation, stating that fresh orders have been sent by the President of the province for further information, and requiring him to proceed with the utmost severity against persons proved to be implicated in the serious offences charged, and against agents of the public authority who have not acted with proper zeal, diligence, and discretion. In this note Senhor Taques declines the offer of the aid of a British naval officer for inquiry.

Before announcing to me the fresh orders given, M. Taques states in his note that "not only is the Imperial Government free from responsibility for the acts ascribed to the inhabitants of the coast of Albardao, accused of having plundered the wreck of the 'Prince of Wales,' but also the local authorities did their duty so far as was permitted by the distances and other difficulties in the way of their acting more promptly and effectively." This is a complete exoneration of the Brazilian Government and its agents, and the charges of murder are set aside with the remark that no proof, or even substantial ground of suspicion, of murder has been elicited.

It is, however, admitted in the same note that there has been a want of evidence owing not only to the flight of some individuals to Montevidean territory, but also to the absence of others who were still in Brazil. Why was the presence of these not enforced?

Senhor Taques makes a distinction between a public authority and "a mere agent of authority." I do not know whether your Lordship will find anything in this distinction affecting the responsibility of the Brazilian Government.

The note makes no allusion to the question of indemnities, or it is, indeed, to be understood as refusing to entertain that part of the question.

I indicate to your Lordship these doubtful points in the note of M. Taques; but I have thought it better to abstain, for the present, from making any rejoinder to his note, and, indeed, I do not feel myself competent to discuss the question with the Brazilian Government at its present stage.

I have had an interview on the subject with the Minister of Justice, to whose Department this question more particularly belongs, and he has given me very strong assurances that everything which can be done in the way of inquiry and punishment shall be done, and I have much confidence in the rectitude of the present Minister of Justice. I hear also that the President of the Province of Rio Grande do Sul is a man of good reputation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 27.

Mr. Christie to Senhor Taques.

M. le Ministre,

Petropolis, March 17, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to refer your Excellency to a note addressed to you by Mr. Baillie on the 27th of October, relative to the sad wreck of the "Prince of Wales" near Albardao, in the province of Rio Grande do Sul.

Since Earl Russell sent to Mr. Baillie the instruction under which that note was

written, he has received an account of the result of Mr. Consul Vereker's correspondence with the provincial authorities, and I am now instructed to state that Her Majesty's Government do not consider the explanations given by these authorities as satisfactory, and are of opinion that the authorities of the district are culpable, and that no sufficient inquiry has been made. I am further instructed to state that Her Majesty's Government expect that a more scrutinizing investigation shall be instituted, with a view to the punishment of the parties concerned in the outrage, and of the local authorities who may be convicted of negligence in dealing with the case; as also with a view to adequate compensation to the owners of the vessel, whose property, by the admission of the provincial authorities themselves, has been plundered and wantonly destroyed, and to the surviving relatives of those who may be found to have been murdered.

I write, under Lord Russell's instructions, to the Admiral commanding Her Majesty's Naval Forces on this station, who is now at Monte Video, to request him to send one of Her Majesty's vessels to the spot, with some experienced officer capable of advising and aiding Mr. Consul Vereker in this afflicting case; and this officer will be ready to co-operate in any inquiry which may be instituted, if such co-operation be agreeable to the Imperial Government.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 27.

Senhor Taques to Mr. Christie.

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rio de Janeiro,
April 19, 1862.*

(Translation.)

THE Undersigned, &c., has to acknowledge the receipt of the note which, under the date of the 17th ultimo, was addressed to him by Mr. William Dougal Christie, &c., for the purpose of calling the attention of the Imperial Government to the note which, on the 27th of October last, Mr. E. M. Baillie, then in charge of Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, addressed to this Ministry respecting the wreck of the English barque "Prince of Wales," near Albardao, in the Province of Rio Grande de São Pedro do Sul.

Declaring that his Government does not consider the explanations given by the authorities of that province to the British Consul satisfactory, but is, on the contrary, persuaded that the authorities of the district are criminal, and also that the steps taken for the discovery of the truth were insufficient, Mr. Christie informs the Imperial Government, in his note to which the Undersigned replies, that he has received instructions to state to the Government of His Majesty the Emperor that Her Britannic Majesty's Government hopes that more minute investigations will be made, in order that not only the persons concerned in the outrage which is presumed to have been committed on the occasion of the shipwreck, but also the authorities, whose negligence on that occasion can be proved, may be punished, and further that a reasonable indemnification will be granted to the owners of the vessel, whose cargo is said to have been robbed with the consent of the said local authorities, and to the families of those English subjects who may be proved to have been murdered.

In giving to this grave subject all the consideration which it deserves, the Undersigned will begin his reply to Mr. Christie's note by assuring him that immediately after the receipt of Mr. Baillie's first note of the 25th October last, he addressed himself to the President of the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, not only calling for all necessary information about the facts as stated, but very particularly ordering the President to take all suitable measures for obtaining a perfect knowledge of the truth, and to proceed against every one who might be inculpated, taking the most energetic measures which the case required.

In obedience to the orders of the Imperial Government, the Vice-President of that province forwarded to this Ministry the information furnished by the several police authorities on the subject.

From this information it is seen that the indictment made by the Delegate of Police of Rio Grande could not be followed up for want of the witnesses to make depositions in the statement of the case; it happening that those who should have most knowledge of what took place, or had part in it, had either absented themselves or got away to the Oriental State; one individual, named Mariano Pinto, in whose house the Inspector of the District found goods, which were seized, remaining in prison awaiting the conclusion of the trial.

In obedience to the orders sent by the Imperial Government, the Chief of Police of the Province gave the necessary instructions to his Delegate to proceed with the accusation, and on the 26th of December fresh orders were sent from this Ministry to the President of that province on this grave matter.

Under such circumstances, the Undersigned has reason to hope that the measures promptly taken by the Imperial Government will not be useless, and he assures Mr. Christie that this Government will not spare any means within its reach for the establishment of the facts, and the punishment of those who have taken any part in the crime, always observing the laws of the country.

From the information to which the Undersigned has referred, it does not result that the Inspector of the Quarter, who by the way, is not an authority, but a mere agent of authority, and who resides at a distance of six leagues from the place of the shipwreck, or that the Sub-Delegate of Tahim, who resided at an equal if not greater distance, were to blame for what happened.

The Undersigned, meanwhile, assures Mr. Christie, that if it should be ascertained that these officials have been culpably negligent, the President of the Province, whose rectitude and zeal for justice inspire the greatest confidence, will take the necessary measures in order that such conduct may not remain without due censure.

The care and decision displayed by the Municipal Judge of Rio Grande, who, together with Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, proceeded to the spot where the event occurred, and searched the neighbouring houses endeavouring to make discoveries, are acknowledged and attested by the said Consul. And if some delay took place before the appearance of that authority, that delay is accounted for by the same causes which prevented the Consul from being there more promptly.

The Undersigned does not understand why the Consul attributes blame to the Judge of the Peace of the District for not having given notice of this fact at once to the superior authorities. The competent authority for that proceeding was the Sub-Delegate, and he did his duty, as is seen in the Consul's own report, and from the information addressed to the Imperial Government.

As no proof existed, nor any material data whereby it could be suspected that any one of the shipwrecked persons had been murdered, Mr. Christie will permit the Undersigned to observe that without any basis whatever so atrocious and wicked a crime cannot be imputed to any one.

From what the Undersigned has just explained, Mr. Christie will doubtless be convinced, not only that the Imperial Government is not in any way responsible for the conduct attributed to the inhabitants of the coast of Albardao, who are accused of having appropriated the goods saved from the wreck of the barque "Prince of Wales," but also that the local authorities performed their duty, so far as they were permitted by the distances and difficulties which obstructed their proceeding in a more prompt and efficacious manner.

The Undersigned will further observe to Mr. Christie that it cannot be doubted that the authorities on that occasion took every possible measure, although they arrived later on the spot, that could have been wished. The presence of the Municipal Judge of Commerce, of the Custom-house officers, and of the military force, to which Mr. Baillie refers in his already mentioned first note, proves this assertion of the Undersigned.

No Government, as Mr. Christie well knows, can be answerable for prejudices caused by outrages committed, without its concurrence or instigation, in its territory, or by its subjects against foreigners.

The duties and efforts of a just and conscientious Government cannot go further than the employment of the whole means within its reach to ensure the conviction of the fact, and the punishment of those proved to be the criminals.

The Undersigned flatters himself that Mr. Christie will acknowledge that the Imperial Government has acted thus in this important matter; and he will add, in order to confirm Mr. Christie in this opinion, that having already conferred with the Ministers of Justice and Finance, he now again addresses himself to the President of Rio Grande de São Pedro do Sul, calling for fresh and more complete information, and instructing him to cause the greatest severity to be exercised, against not only those who are implicated in the crime, but also against those agents of public authority who may not have acted with due zeal and diligence and circumspection.

As regard the offer made by Mr. Christie in his note to which this is an answer, of the co-operation of a naval officer, who will proceed in one of Her Majesty's ships to the place of the shipwreck in order to assist the Consul in this deplorable affair, the Undersigned returns thanks to Mr. Christie, but cannot understand what assistance the

authorities of the country could receive from a British officer, nor what he could do in furtherance of the ends of justice, and he declines to accept the Minister's offer.

The Undersigned will conclude the present note by frankly stating to Mr. Christie that the Imperial Government feels its dignity pledged to the prosecution of the individuals who, in violation of the most sacred laws, committed the acts of depredation of which the inhabitants of the coast of Albardao are accused; and that whatever delay there may be in collecting the necessary proofs for proceeding legally, it will not desist from the intention to punish so great an atrocity, and make an example of its authors.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

B. A. DE MAGES. TAQUES.

No. 28.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received June 3.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 7, 1862.

SINCE I wrote my despatch of the 5th instant, I have received from Rear-Admiral Warren a despatch of which I inclose a copy, reporting the return of Captain Saumarez to Monte Video. I also inclose a copy of a letter from Mr. Consul Vereker to Captain Saumarez, of which a copy was inclosed in Admiral Warren's letter.

After receiving on the 6th or 7th from the President of the Province at Porto Alegre, a promise to give immediate orders for an inquiry by the Chief of Police, Captain Saumarez and Mr. Consul Vereker returned to Rio Grande do Sul on the 8th, and up to the 18th no communication whatever had been received from the President or Chief of Police on the subject of the promised inquiry, and Mr. Consul Vereker seems to be of opinion that the President had changed his mind, and had referred the matter to Rio.

Your Lordship will perceive that Admiral Warren complains of want of proper courtesy to his Flag Captain, and I shall be glad to know if your Lordship wishes me to take any notice of this to the Brazilian Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 28.

Rear-Admiral Warren to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

"Forte," Monte Video, April 23, 1862.

I HAD the honour to inform you by mail of the 1st instant, that in compliance with your wish "that a naval officer should be sent to Rio Grande do Sul to assist Her Majesty's Consul at that port at an investigation which was to take place into the circumstances attending the wreck of the 'Prince of Wales,' of Glasgow, on the coast of Albardao, in June last," I intended that Captain Saumarez, my Flag Captain, should proceed on that service.

Captain Saumarez left this for Rio Grande on the 1st instant, taking with him a gun-boat of light draft of water. Immediately on his arrival at Rio Grande, Her Majesty's Consul and himself proceeded in the gun-boat to Porto Alegre, where the President of the Province resides, and waited on his Excellency, informing them of the object of their mission.

His Excellency undertook that a searching inquiry should be immediately instituted, and that although he could not recognize the official right of Captain Saumarez to attend at the investigation, he had no objection to his being present as a private individual.

Captain Saumarez and Her Majesty's Consul then returned to Rio Grande, daily expecting intimation when the inquiry was to be held; but no steps whatever being taken—Captain Saumarez having waited till the 18th instant, when Her Majesty's Consul and himself being of opinion that his remaining any longer was useless—he rejoined me here.

The President was perfectly aware of Captain Saumarez's rank, and I consider it a great want of courtesy to that officer the President taking no further notice after promising the inquiry. Had he altered his intention and determined to communicate with his Government previous to entering into the business, Captain Saumarez had a

right to be informed of it, but day after day passes without any steps being taken, or any communication made either to Her Majesty's Consul or to that officer.

Captain Saumarez informs me Mr. Vereker told him that the President had full power to order to order the investigation, without any reference to the Government at Rio.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RICHARD L. WARREN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 28.

Consul Vereker to Captain Saumarez.

Sir,

Rio Grande do Sul, April 16, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of this day's date, in which you inform me, that in view of the procrastination of the Brazilian authorities, with regard to the promised inquiry into the circumstances attending the wreck of the barque "Prince of Wales," you propose at once to return to Monte Video, unless I should advise otherwise.

Referring to my despatch of the 8th instant, I have to state, in reply to your communication, that the immediate urgency of the inquiry proposed was fully explained in our interviews with his Excellency the President, and he promised that the Chief of Police would be directed to come to an understanding with me on the subject. Nevertheless, I have good information that the Chief of Police on the 9th instant received despatches from the Presidency, which it is to be presumed referred to the proposed inquiry, as the steamer of war which conveyed them left Porto Alegre subsequently to Her Majesty's ship "Sheldrake," but he made no communication to this Consulate on the subject, merely returning my visit by a card, delivered by a servant after his departure for Porto Alegre, which took place on the 11th instant, in the steamer "Maria." The last-named steamer, which carried mails from Rio de Janeiro, after an unusual delay at Porto Alegre, arrived here yesterday evening, and on the 10th instant, the Brazilian steamer of war "Fluminense" had also arrived, and conveyed despatches from the Presidency for the Brazilian gun-boat "Parnalulla," which was ordered immediately to proceed to Rio de Janeiro; but no communication from the Presidency regarding the object of your visit has reached either the Consulate or yourself, notwithstanding that on the 10th instant, after the arrival of the Chief of Police, that object was clearly pointed to by publications in the daily newspapers: through these the guilty inhabitants of the coast will have received warning to conceal the last vestiges of their crimes, the delays which have occurred giving them ample opportunities so to do, and if not to defeat, at least to diminish greatly, the efficacy of any inquiry now undertaken.

The request conveyed to the Presidency by yourself and I, for a full and searching investigation in the locality into the circumstances attending the wreck referred to, was simple, put forward with the utmost courtesy, its urgency clearly shown, and its necessity acknowledged by the President, who conceded the demand, stating he would order the inquiry, but no information is conveyed of action on the part of the provincial authorities in the case, though they have had ample opportunities to declare their intentions and to institute proceedings.

Under these circumstances, I fully concur in the view you have expressed, that you should not longer remain in this port. I do not think such a course would be consistent with the circumstances of your arrival here, or in conformity with the respect due to the reasonable request of Her Majesty's Government. I may add, that the provincial authorities have power to form a determination upon the case as it was submitted to the Presidency, and your remaining here in one of Her Majesty's vessels, after full opportunities (though without known result) have been given to those authorities to communicate their decision, might lead to inconvenient interpretations.

In conclusion, I would express my gratification and thanks for your zealous co-operation with this Consulate, on all points, since your arrival at this port, and I would hope that if the Brazilian authorities should finally show a desire to discover the truth regarding the deaths of the crew of the barque "Prince of Wales," and to punish those who instigated the plunder of the cargo, I may yet, at a future time, have the benefit of your assistance, should a genuine inquiry be instituted.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

No. 29.

Earl Russell to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 4, 1862.

WITH reference to your despatches of the 5th and 7th of May, I have to instruct you to insist upon a proper inquiry into the circumstances of the wreck of the vessel "Prince of Wales," and that a British officer should be on the spot at the time of the investigation.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 30.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Layard.—(Received June 6.)

Sir,

Admiralty, June 3, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, with reference to your letter of the 6th September last, a copy of a letter dated the 24th April, from Rear-Admiral Warren, with its inclosures in original, reporting the proceedings of Captain Saumarez, of the "Forte," in assisting Her Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande, in demanding an inquiry by the Brazilian Government into the circumstances attending the plunder of portions of the goods saved from the "Prince of Wales," of Glasgow, wrecked on the coast of Albardao.

I am, &c.
(Signed) C. PAGET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 30.

Rear-Admiral Warren to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

My Lord,

"Forte," Monte Video, April 24, 1862.

IN my letter of the 23rd of December last respecting the wreck of the "Prince of Wales," of Glasgow, off the coast of Albardao, which vessel was plundered, and the crew supposed to have been unfairly dealt with, I had the honour of acquainting you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that I had offered to send an officer to Rio Grande to assist Her Majesty's Consul in the investigation demanded by the British Minister. My offer was declined; Mr. Vereker, the Consul at Rio Grande, not considering that in the then state of the business an officer could be of any assistance to him.

2. On the 29th ultimo I received a letter from Mr. Christie, Her Majesty's Minister at Rio, informing me that Earl Russell had again demanded a searching inquiry into the whole circumstances of the wreck, and requesting that a naval officer might be sent to assist. Accordingly I sent Captain Saumarez, of this ship, to Rio Grande with a gun-boat, which enables him to proceed to Porto Alegre, 180 miles up the Lago dos Patos, accompanied by Mr. Vereker, Her Majesty's Consul, when he waited upon the President of the province. A copy of his instructions is herewith forwarded.

3. Captain Saumarez returned to Monte Video after an absence of twenty days, not having succeeded in obtaining an inquiry. The inclosed letter, detailing his proceedings, will give their Lordships all the information on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RICHARD L. WARREN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 30.

Mr. Christie to Rear-Admiral Warren.

Sir,

Petropolis, March 17, 1862.

EARL RUSSELL has lately sent instructions for a renewed demand for a searching inquiry by the Brazilian Government into the circumstances of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales" at Albardao, near the Rio Grande do Sul, and have referred me to his earlier

instructions, under which Mr. Baillie in November last requested you to send, if possible, a vessel of war to the aid of Mr. Consul Vereker in this matter. You were then unable to comply with Mr. Baillie's request, but as I am informed that two or three gun-boats of light draft have since joined the station, I hope that it may now be in your power to give effect to Lord Russell's wishes. If you can send a gun-boat to Rio Grande do Sul, I hope it may also be in your power to send with it an officer of rank and experience sufficient to insure his giving effective co-operation to Mr. Consul Vereker in this afflicting case. I have mentioned to the Brazilian Government that I address to you this request, and that the naval officer whom you may send will, in accordance with the wish of Her Majesty's Government, be ready to co-operate in any inquiry which may be instituted, if it shall be agreeable to the Brazilian Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 30.

Orders addressed to Captain Saumarez.

By Richard L. Warren, Esq., &c.

HER Majesty's Minister at Rio having acquainted me that Earl Russell has again called upon the Brazilian Government for a searching inquiry to be made into the circumstances attending the wreck of the "Prince of Wales," of Glasgow, at Albardao, in June last, and suggested that an officer of rank and experience should proceed to Rio Grande do Sul to co-operate with the Honourable Mr. Vereker, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, in the inquiry, and having selected you for this service, you will therefore proceed, as soon as convenient, to Rio Grande do Sul, in the "Oberon," taking with you the "Sheldrake" gun-boat, there not being sufficient water for the "Oberon" to cross the bar.

On arrival at Rio Grande you can send the "Oberon" to cruize under sail, calling off the bar at such times as you may find necessary, and you will rejoin my flag by the 13th of April, if possible.

For your information is inclosed the copy of a correspondence between Mr. Consul Vereker and the British Legation on this subject; also the copy of a letter to me from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio.

Given under my hand on board the "Forte," at Monte Video, this 31st of March, 1862.

(Signed) RICHARD L. WARREN.

To Captain Saumarez,

Her Majesty's ship "Forte."

By command of the Commander-in-chief.

(Signed) HUGH F. PULLEN, *Secretary.*

Inclosure 4 in No. 30.

Captain Saumarez to Rear-Admiral Warren.

Sir,

"Forte," Monte Video, April 21, 1862.

HAVING this day returned in the gun-boat "Sheldrake" from Rio Grande, I have the honour to forward a brief summary of my proceedings since the 1st instant, full details of which I gave in my letters of the 4th, 10th, and 17th instant, and their inclosures.

I arrived off Rio Grande do Sul on the 3rd of April, crossed the bar in the "Sheldrake," and communicated with the Honourable H. P. Vereker, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul; finding from him that nothing could be done without authority from the President, who resides at Porto Alegre, at the head of an inland lake some 180 miles distant, and thinking the presence of one of Her Majesty's vessels thus far in the interior of the heart of the province would carry greater weight with the President, and strengthen our demands for an inquiry into the circumstances attending the wreck of the barque "Prince of Wales" and fate of her crew, we arrived there on the 6th instant, and the same afternoon his Excellency the President, Senhor Francisco de Assis Pereira Rocha, received the Consul and myself, when I informed him of the cause of my visit. He requested an interview on the following day, when I particularly pointed out to his Excellency that no inquiry had been made into the causes of the deaths of the captain and crew, and went most fully into the subject, and Her Majesty's Consul gave full details, pressing for an immediate inquiry,

pointing out that the inhabitants of the coast would be forewarned in the event of any delay, and consequently defeat the object in view. The President, in reply, acknowledged as to the plunder of the vessel, and that he would order an instant and full inquiry, for which purpose he would direct the Chief of Police to put himself in communication with the Consul on the subject, but that he could in no way recognize me in any official capacity on such inquiry, but that I might be present.

Agreeably with the request of Her Majesty's Consul I remained till the 17th instant, when, finding no steps of any kind had been taken by the Chief of Police, and feeling by my presence there I was sanctioning such procrastination on the part of the Brazilian authorities, I thought it best to leave that port, receiving the accompanying letter from Her Majesty's Consul; and I have also the honour to inclose the minutes of conversation held with his Excellency the President on the 6th and 7th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. SAUMAREZ.

Inclosure 5 in No. 30.

Memorandum of Conversation which took place on the 6th of April, 1862, between Senhor Rocha, Captain Saumarez, and Consul Vereker.

[See Inclosure 5 in No. 26.]

Inclosure 6 in No. 30.

Memorandum of Conversation held on the 7th April, 1862, between Senhor Rocha, Captain Saumarez, and Consul Vereker.

[See Inclosure 6 in No. 26.]

Inclosure 7 in No. 30.

Consul Vereker to Captain Saumarez, April 16, 1862.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 28.]

No. 31.

Consul Vereker to Earl Russell.—(Received June 20.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, April 16, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of two despatches containing further correspondence with Captain Saumarez, R.N., respecting his visit to this port in connection with the serious circumstances attending the wreck of the barque "Prince of Wales."

It will be seen from these papers that Captain Saumarez having waited, at my request, from the 7th instant to this day for the fulfilment of the President's understood promise for a full and complete inquiry into that case under the Chief of Police, and ample opportunities having occurred for such an inquiry being set on foot, and for his Excellency the President to declare his intentions, nevertheless no signs of action appeared, and consequently Captain Saumarez considered that it would not be proper longer to delay in this port, but offered to be guided by my opinion.

I concurred in Captain Saumarez's views, as by delaying here he would have had the appearance of awaiting the convenience of the provincial authorities, though they already were given full time to act, and the urgency of the case had been most strongly pointed out to them; their postponements then assumed the character that the demand put forward on the part of Her Majesty's Government was received with insufficient courtesy, or, it may be, little respect. I therefore felt it right to advise Captain Saumarez as I did in my despatch of this date.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 31

*Captain Saumarez to Consul Vereker.*Sir, "Sheldrake," *Rio Grande do Sul*, April 16, 1862.

HAVING now waited in this port since the 10th instant to assist and co-operate with you in any inquiry which the President might order (agreeably with your request); the Chief of Police having arrived here on the 10th instant, and left on the 11th instant; no communications of any kind as to such inquiry having been made to you either by the President or Brazilian authorities, though the former faithfully promised us at our interviews on the 7th and 8th instant that such inquiry should instantly take place; and the object of my mission here evidently having been made public, as witness the daily papers in which the one abuses the other for stating that some of the crew of the shipwrecked barque "Prince of Wales" met their death by strangulation; and as there has been frequent communication since with Porto Alegre, as also steamers of war at the President's disposal,—I consider it would not be consistent with my position to await such procrastination, the more so as it is quite evident that the President will not move in the matter till he has heard from Rio, to which port he sent the "Parahyba" gun-boat on the 11th instant. Under these circumstances I purpose at once to proceed to Monte Video in this gun-boat, though at much inconvenience to myself, as I consider my waiting here any longer would be sanctioning such delays on the part of the President, who promised quite otherwise.

I, of course, shall be guided by your reply, and should you think it best for me to remain under the above circumstances I am at your disposal; and it only remains for me to add how gratified I am at finding our views and acts thus far have been most cordial and unanimous.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. SAUMAREZ.

Inclosure 2 in No. 31.

Consul Vereker to Captain Saumarez, April 16, 1862.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 28.]

No. 32.

Consul Vereker to Earl Russell.—(Received June 20.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, April 24, 1862.

REFERRING to my previous despatches regarding the case of the barque "Prince of Wales," I have the honour to report that on the evening of the 21st instant I received a despatch of the same date from the Delegate of the Police of this city, informing me that he had to proceed this day (24th) to the coast of Albardao, to inquire respecting the assassinations which I suspected had taken place on the crew of that barque, and inviting me to accompany him; this I declined to do, and I trust that your Lordship will approve my determination in view of the reasons I proceed to point out.

The President of this Province had stated most positively that the inquiry would be conducted by the Chief of Police, who is a principal member of the Provincial Government, and is appointed by the Central Government: his presence would therefore have carried with it much weight, and shown the earnestness of the Provincial Government; but the case became much altered when an inferior officer, appointed and removable at the will of the President, was nominated to conduct the investigation. I could not, therefore, consistently with the dignity of my position, associate myself with that officer, in view of the little regard paid by the President to the engagement entered into in the conversation which took place at the Presidency on the 7th instant, as reported in my despatch of the 14th instant, his Excellency not having even informed me of his changed resolution.

I should further observe that the inquiry now undertaken is not calculated to satisfy the expectations of Her Majesty's Government. It is conducted by an officer of the same rank as he who accompanied me in June 1861, with a force less imposing than that on the former occasion; its necessity is alleged by his Excellency the President to

arise from my having reported to Her Majesty's Government that the crew of the barque had been assassinated, and the Delegate in his despatch invites me to be present, as it were to sustain my suspicions; thus the inquiry comes to bear the character of an attempt to disprove those alleged statements, which, as your Lordship is aware, were never uttered: for though I have endeavoured most faithfully to report the facts, I have with equal caution avoided hitherto drawing any conclusion. Besides, the inhabitants of the Albardao have now been long aware of the projected inquiry, and have had at least ten days to conceal the last open proofs of their guilt.

As my name has been prominently brought forward in connexion with this case by the Brazillian press and otherwise, I feel it suitable at this time, and after mature consideration of the various bearings of the case, to declare my opinion that the deaths of some of those who composed the crew of the "Prince of Wales," cannot, in view of the facts and circumstances and position of the bodies, be accounted for in any reasonable manner, excepting on the supposition that they were the result of assassination.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

No. 33.

Consul Vereker to Earl Russell.—(Received June 20.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, May 12, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation of a despatch of the 5th instant, received from the Chief of Police of this Province, and a copy of my reply, relating to the circumstances attending the wreck of the barque "Prince of Wales."

Immediately after receiving the despatch of the Chief of Police I visited him, and verbally explained such facts within my knowledge as seemed calculated to assist the investigation proposed: he appeared to feel but little interest in the serious points of the case brought forward, and repeated that the indications were opposed to the opinion that any assassination had taken place. Before leaving, I offered to give the Chief of Police all the information in my power, showed myself ready to accompany him to the locality of the wreck if he should desire to proceed thereto, and requested to be present at any meeting or examination he might hold on this subject. I left, however, with the irresistible impression that the present proceeding was not undertaken for the purpose of discovering the truth, but rather to satisfy the British and Brazilian Governments, by hushing up, through a mock inquiry, that part of the question which relates to the possible violence which may have been offered to all or some who had been in the vessel mentioned.

This impression was strengthened when, on the 8th instant, I was invited to attend the only inquiry at which my presence was expected. The witnesses examined, the character of the questions, and the manner in which they were put, seemed to imply that the object of this inquiry is to maintain that no assassination took place; this your Lordship will be better acquainted with when I send you a copy of the evidence, for which I intend to apply.

I beg leave to inclose two translated extracts from a local newspaper, relating to the case under consideration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 33.

Senhor Callado to Consul Vereker.

*Office of the Chief of Police of the Province of Rio Grande,
May 5, 1862.*

(Translation.)

FINDING myself in this city by order of the Imperial Government, to direct personally the investigations commenced with the object of more minutely verifying the circumstances of the wreck of the British vessel "Prince of Wales;" seeing that the information afforded in former dates by the authorities of the district are recognized as being unsatisfactory, I thus communicate to you, requesting you to furnish me with the explanations which you may judge useful to discover the truth, and punish the guilty.

We propose to examine into two orders of facts,—the plunder of the cargo and moveable articles thrown on the shore, and the assassination of the crew and passengers, altogether or partly. With regard to the plunder the local authorities proceed long since, and a summary criminal process is under judgment, three individuals being pronounced guilty. New investigations are being made by means of the Delegate of Police, Dr. H. B. M. Canarim; it is a recognized fact, and its authors will be brought before the Tribunal. With regard, however, to the assassination, up to the present the result of all the inquiries is negative. I am going to adopt new examinations, and therefore request you to furnish to me the reasons of your judgment, when you presumed that this crime took place. And if it is apparent to you that any part of the cargo of the barque “Prince of Wales” may still exist in any one’s power, or that you should have knowledge of the persons who sold it, you will do me a special service in communicating. I beg of you to deign to let me know if it suits you to assist at the investigation in this city, and elsewhere.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) DARIO RAFAEL CALLADO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 33.

Consul Vereker to Senhor Callado.

Sir,

Rio Grande do Sul, May 5, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of this day’s date, in which you inform me of your arrival here, to inquire respecting the supposed murder of some of the crew, and the robbery of the cargo, of the barque “Prince of Wales.” I have already verbally explained to you many facts in connexion with that wreck, and will be ready to give you all further information in my power in order to elucidate the truth. I should also desire to have the opportunity of attending an inquiry which you may make in this city on the subject, or to accompany you outside should you judge right to continue the investigation in the locality of the wreck.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 33.

Extract from the “Echo do Sul” of May 7, 1862.

(Translation.)

INVESTIGATION.—The Dr. Chief of Police, accompanied by the Ensign and two or three police soldiers, went yesterday morning on horseback, and with luggage, outside the town.

We believe that his Excellency proceeded to Albardao,* the classical district of depredations, robberies, assassination, and strangling.

The distinguished Dr. Chief of Police goes very late in search of the criminals. We believe however that, if his Excellency should so desire, he will still meet with many vestiges of crime.

Inclosure 4 in No. 33.

Extract from the “Echo do Sul” of May 10, 1862.

THE ENGLISH CLAIM.—A portion of the press of the capital has looked upon the question of the English claim under the point of view of an exaggerated and ill understood patriotism, and of a susceptibility not quite justifiable.

The manner in which contemporaries think is not for our account, and where they discover a preponderance or abuse of superiority of force we barely see a just and very reasonable proceeding, because the gun-boats did not force the entry of our port; they came with despatches of our Minister in Monte Video, and by his authority, which represents the Government, did the “Sheldrake” plough the Lake Patos.

* The Chief of Police only proceeded about one-third of the way to Albardao, and returned on the next day, the 7th instant.—H. P. V.

There is not, on the side of England, any preponderance or abuse in claiming a guarantee for the lives and goods of its subjects, nor for Brazil any loss of dignity in attending to such just claims. It is not the Armstrong cannons which exact a satisfaction; it is the right of nations, the code which regulates international relations.

The humiliations of 1851 cannot enter into the same account with that which now happens. Then there was abuse, now there is only a just claim to be satisfied.

NOTE.—The editor then proceeds, in reply to another newspaper article, to point out that the condemnation of three persons for robberies of the cargo of the "Prince of Wales" was not in consequence of the arrival of the British gun-boats, as the sentence had been passed previous to the arrival of those vessels and was only delayed because the authorities of the coast had not proceeded to an act of inquest, and that through the absence of this essential evidence the culprits could only be condemned for the crime of theft instead of for that of robbery.

No. 34.

Earl Russell to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 3, 1862.

I HAVE received Mr. Vereker's despatches of the 16th and 24th of April and 12th of May, which have also passed through your hands, regarding the case of the "Prince of Wales."

I regret to observe that there seems to be very little hope of arriving at a satisfactory conclusion in this affair, but Her Majesty's Government must hold the Brazilian Government responsible for correctly ascertaining the facts of the case.

You will continue to urge the matter on the attention of the Brazilian Government, and to press for the payment of all expenses incurred; and I cannot but think that the Brazilian Government, on a full consideration of the facts of the case, will be disposed to make some compensation to the sufferers.

Whether the charge of culpability in this matter is or is not brought home to the Brazilian local authorities, there is no doubt that an outrage has been committed which reflects but little credit on the state of Brazilian civilization, and under such circumstances it would appear natural that the Brazilian Government should be anxious to make every reparation in their power.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 35.

Mr. Stephens to Earl Russell.—(Received July 4.)

My Lord,

15, Dixon Street, Glasgow, July 2, 1862.

IT is now more than twelve months since my ship the "Prince of Wales," Captain McKinnon, was wrecked near Rio Grande, the captain, his wife, and the whole crew murdered by the Brazilians, the ship's stores and cargo all plundered and carried away by Brazilians, employés and subjects. Up to this time I have got no redress. I am going to London to take action in this matter, and will be obliged by your Lordship's causing me to be informed if the British Chargé d'Affaires at Rio has got any redress, or if you intend to compel them to give it without further delay. Waiting your reply, I am, &c.

(Signed) R. P. STEPHENS.

No. 36.

Mr. Layard to Mr. Stephens.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 9, 1862.

I AM directed by Lord Russell to acknowledge your letter of the 2nd instant, asking whether any redress has been given by the Brazilian Government for the outrage on the wreck of your vessel the "Prince of Wales."

I regret to inform you, in reply, that the last accounts from Her Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande hold out but little hope of arriving at a satisfactory conclusion in this affair.

But Her Majesty's Government are taking active steps with a view of correctly ascertaining the facts of the case, and Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro has been desired to urge upon the Brazilian Government the necessity of making compensation to the sufferers by this outrage.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. H. LAYARD.

No. 37.

Consul Vereker to Earl Russell.—(Received July 22.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, May 23, 1862.

IN continuation of the reports which it has been my duty to forward in reference to the wreck of the barque "Prince of Wales," and the renewed inquiry on the subject, the necessity of which latter has, after the lapse of eleven months, been acknowledged by the Brazilian authorities, I have to state that the Chief of Police, who was charged with the investigation, left this city for Porto Alegre on the present instant. With regard to his proceedings I have little positive information, as the only inquiry which I was invited to attend was the trifling examination referred to in my despatch of the 12th instant.

After the departure of the Chief of Police, Dr. Canarim, the Delegate of Police of this city, informed me this day that they had obtained proofs against six or seven individuals for plundering the cargo, but that no arrest had taken place, as they were satisfied that others of greater influence were involved, and it was feared that the principals would escape if those of less note with whom the others had combined should be prosecuted; they wished to connect the proofs so as to reach the principals. The Delegate added that almost all the inhabitants of the coast were implicated in the robberies. Dr. Canarim further said that the Sub-Delegate of Tahim, Delfim Francisco Gonçalves, had been dismissed in consequence of not having performed his duties in connection with the wreck of the "Prince of Wales;" that Faustino José da Silveira, who had been nominated to the same office, had been removed and would be prosecuted for his proceedings in connection with that wreck; and he expressed an opinion that no assassination had taken place on the occasion.

Dr. Canarim, the Delegate of Police, is an active officer, and though I report the above statements as communicated to me, I cannot yet confirm them; and it appears that the opinion that no murder could have taken place is hazarded on partial and insufficient evidence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

No. 38.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received July 22.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 17, 1862.

I INCLOSE, for your Lordship's confidential information, a copy of a private letter which I received some time since from Mr. Consul Vereker on the subject of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales." It seems to me desirable that your Lordship should have knowledge of this letter for the general judgment which Her Majesty's Government will have ultimately to form on this affair. I felt it right confidentially to inform the late Minister of Justice of the contents of Mr. Vereker's letter. He assured me that full inquiry should be made about the conduct of the officials denounced by Mr. Vereker, and that if blame was found to attach to them they should not be spared. I am glad to infer from Mr. Consul Vereker's despatch of May 23, which I herewith forward, that the late Minister of Justice acted up to his promise. Your Lordship will, however, perceive that the Brazilian authorities, while now showing apparently goodwill and energy in this affair, still refuse assent to Mr. Vereker's opinion that some of the crew were murdered.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure in No. 38.

Consul Vereker to Mr. Christie.

Dear Sir,

Rio Grande do Sul, March 29, 1862.

I HAVE this day received and acknowledged your despatch of the 18th instant. As the Government are evidently taking an interest in the wreck of the barque "Prince of Wales," I feel it right to convey to you privately information which could not conveniently be mentioned in the official despatches, and which may assist your communications with the authorities.

When I went down to the coast of Albardao (about seventy miles) on hearing of the wreck, we went to the house of Senhor B. V. Soares, the nearest to the wreck; for though I was anxious to proceed to sleep on the coast, others of the party required rest, and my desire was overruled. Senhor Bento is the chief man of the district: he is Justice of the Peace, and most of those around are his relatives, compadres, or retainers. Those hitherto prosecuted or found with wrecked goods are of the latter class. When we reached the house, we were unwillingly received, though we offered to pay for everything; and it appeared that his daughter (married to F. J. da Silveira) was the only person to act, Senhor Bento having left for Pelotas, in the country. She was excessively suspicious and fearful, and, above all things, hearing that I was the English Consul, she seemed incommoded. That night we remained without refreshment, and the next morning proceeded to the coast, where we found Senhor F. J. da Silveira with about ten armed men, who had stopped on the shore all night. On our arrival on the coast we found all the cargo plundered, and the cases broken open, some apparently quite recently (probably the previous night), as the smell of the wood and turpentine was quite fresh. On my pointing this out to Faustino, he at first roughly denied that anything had been touched, stating that all came so from the wreck. When, however, I showed him the forcible breakages and the marks of the instruments, he did not answer. After taking an inventory of the things on the coast, and directing the transport of such as I thought would pay the carriage, I rejoined the Municipal Judge and proposed an immediate examination of the bodies. F. J. da Silveira was present, and seemed greatly taken aback. He quickly turned his horse and joined his followers, and they seemed to have an earnest conference. Faustino then rode up to us again, and asserted that it was impossible to go that night to where the bodies were, &c.; and finally, the Judge, I presume yielding to prudence, as he had no force to cope with the others, declared that he had no power to do what I required. I then proposed a search in the neighbouring houses, which Faustino most readily agreed to. It was then arranged between the Judge and the others that Senhor Faustino and myself should proceed through one district, and the Judge and Custom-house guard through another. Two soldiers were assigned to me as an escort, and Faustino took two of his men; all the others went with the Judge. This placed me in a difficult position, as only one of my followers was to be relied on; and so there was a preponderance against me, to be increased if any difficulty arose with the inhabitants; for it was evident they were acting with Faustino. But after one or two visits I found that all were evidently prepared for the search, and of course nothing was apprehended. Each person pretended that they had never heard of the wreck, or of bodies being found, though this had taken place close to their doors ten days before. When I was at the house of one who so alleged, a young man came in, to whom Faustino spoke in an undertone; but I heard the word "cadaver," and as we were riding away I asked him what the lad said about a dead body. Faustino replied that he had sent him in the morning to bury the last body found. I then asked, "Who is he?" "Oh, the son of the man you have been speaking to." This incident shows the falsity and collusion of the inhabitants of the coast.

When I returned to Senhor Bento's, I questioned one of his boys about the discovery of the wreck; and ascertained that the boy, having gone out after cattle early on the morning of the 9th of June, seeing the objects on the shore, had immediately returned and told his family of the shore being strewed with straw, &c.; that is to say, three days before Bento pretends to have first heard of the wreck as a rumour in the streets of Tahim (several leagues distant), when he was about to go to Pelotas, and two days before Senhor Faustino, who lives close by, acknowledges to have had any information of the occurrence. I also saw in Senhor Bento's house two cases belonging to the "Prince of Wales," empty, but dry and in perfect order. I noted the marks, and am informed from Glasgow, by the shipowners, that they had contained fine manufactured goods; yet no part of those goods were given up. The flight of Senhor Bento to Pelotas, apparently until the excitement respecting the wreck and crew should be calmed down, leaving Senhor Faustino, his son-in-law, to act as District Inspector, is also eminently suspicious.

From what I have stated you will form your own conclusions; and not to detain your valuable time, I shall merely further mention my conviction, in view of the influence which B. V. Soares, Justice of the Peace, and F. J. da Silveira, Inspector of the District and Substitute, and now Acting Sub-Delegate of Police, exercise over the inhabitants of the coast of Albardao, that unless these men are put in jail, or otherwise signally disgraced, no useful evidence or results will be obtained by further investigations into this painful case.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

No. 39.

Earl Russell to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 23, 1862.

I HAVE read with great regret your last report upon the investigations into the outrage committed on the occasion of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales."

Her Majesty's Government cannot believe that the Brazilian Government will allow the ends of justice to be defeated in this case by the influence of local authorities, to whom strong suspicion attaches of having, at any rate, connived at the crime that has been committed.

You will inform the Brazilian Government that Her Majesty's Government take a deep interest in this serious case, and look to the Government of Brazil for justice, notwithstanding local opposition and influence.

Her Majesty's Government are also convinced that if it is proved that a crime has been committed, the Brazilian Government will cause the perpetrators to suffer the punishment due to their offence, and proper compensation to be made.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 40.

Consul Vereker to Earl Russell.—(Received August 6.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, June 4, 1862.

HAVING at length received from the local authorities copies of the reports of inquests held on four bodies of those wrecked from the barque "Prince of Wales," I have the honour to inclose translations of those documents, sending at the same time the originals to Her Majesty's Mission.

With regard to the report from Albardao, I have omitted to repeat the mere opening and closing formal expressions, but the translation of the report made here I forward entire; and I have in both cases added confidential observations, which may assist your Lordship in appreciating truly this mysterious case.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 40.

Report of Inquest held at Albardao on the Bodies Wrecked from the "Prince of Wales."

Translated Extract.

Consul's Observations.

ACT OF DISINTERMENT.

(Signed) GONCALVES.

It is to be noted that only one body was disinterred; the others were found unburied.

22nd day of the month of June in the year of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, 1861, at 3½ o'clock in the evening, on the coast of Albardao, situated in this district, and close to the rivulet of Baeta,

there being present Delfim Francisco Gonçalves, the Sub-Delegate of Police, with me the undersigned Secretary of his office, and the witnesses undersigned, and Manoel da Fonseca and Leonidio Pereira de Sousa, the skilled persons nominated, who are not professionals, both residents in this district, and on the same shore a small cross was met, which indicated a burial: and the said Judge, proceeding thereto with me the Secretary, skilled persons, and witnesses, the said Judge ordered that they should proceed to the disinterment of that which was there found, in order to proceed to an examination thereon, which in effect was done in the presence of the said Judge and of me the Secretary, skilled persons, and witnesses, and other persons who were there, of which I give faith. And there was disinterred a corpse in a state of complete putrefaction; and there the Judge administered to the skilled persons the oath on the Holy Evangelists, that they should well and faithfully perform their mission, declaring with truth that which they should discover or meet with, and that which in their consciences they should understand; and he charged them that they should proceed to an examination on the corpse which was present, and that they should answer the following questions:—

1st Question.—That they should recognize if the person is white or coloured.

2nd Question.—If it be man or woman.

3rd Question.—What is the state of the body?

4th Question.—What was the immediate cause of death?

Consequently, the skilled persons passed to make the examinations and investigations ordered, and those which they judged necessary: the whole concluded, they declared the following:—

To the 1st question they answered that it is white; to the 2nd question they answered that it is a man, as it has beard and fair hair; to the 3rd question they answered that it appeared to have been eaten by animals in the private parts, and that it has one foot booted, and is dressed with trousers and smock-frock; to the 4th question, that it was drowned, and that in their opinions they judge it to be of the English barque "Prince of Wales," lately wrecked here. And these are the declarations which, in their consciences and under the oath administered, they have to make; and as there was nothing more, the examination ordered was concluded; and of all this present Act was drawn, which is written by me and countersigned by the Judge, and signed by the same, the skilled persons and

I am informed that this Leonidio Pereira de Sousa headed a party of plunderers on the occasion of the wreck, and directed their movements; also, that he is brother-in-law of Bento Venancio Soares, upon whom much suspicion rests. The impropriety of nominating him to examine and report becomes, therefore, very manifest, more especially when it appears that the Sub-Delegate proceeded from the house of his host, Venancio Soares, to make the inquest.

The insufficiency of this tardy inquest is shown by the replies, which are not only meagre, but in part inaccurate. The body was evidently that of a seaman, middle-aged, dressed with a thick blue shirt, a pair of trousers, thick worsted stockings, and on one foot a sea-boot, with part of a pair of oil-cloth trousers attached. The man had apparently been drowned, the body showing no marks of violence; but the parts immediately below the belly were open, and the intestines putrid, when the body came to the cemetery. The skin, except where mentioned, was quite perfect. I therefore do not understand the grounds on which it is said to have been eaten by animals. The beard and whiskers were dark, the hair of the scalp of a lighter colour.

witnesses, with me the Secretary, João Leonardo Dutra, who made it and signed it, of all which I give faith.

(Signed) DELFIM FRANCISCO GONCALVES.
 LUIS MANOEL DA FONSECA.
 LEONIDIO PEREIRA DE SOUZA
 JOSE ALVES DE FREITAS RAMOS.
 JOAO FERNANDES RIBEIRO.
 JOAO LEONARDO DUTRA.

ACT OF INQUEST.

1st Question.—If there is really death.

2nd Question.—What its immediate cause.

3rd Question.—What the means employed to produce it.

4th Question.—What the incident which produced it.

5th Question.—What its state.

In consequence, the skilled persons proceeded to make the examinations and investigations ordered, and those which they judged necessary; the which concluded, they declared the following:—

To the 1st question, that it is truly dead; to the 2nd question they answered, that drowned by the sea; to the 3rd question they answered, that the same sea; to the 4th question, that wrecked as it appears; to the 5th question they answered, that strangled, and eat by animals in various parts, and that it is white, and is a man, who has fair hair and beard. And these are the declarations which, in their consciences and under the oath administered, they have to make.

In continuation.

To the first question they answered that it is truly dead: to the second question they answered that drowned by the sea; to the third question they answered that the same sea; to the fourth question they answered that wrecked as it appears; to the fifth question they answered that all eat by animals; that it is man as it has yellow-reddish beard and hair, and that it is white. And these are the declarations which in their consciences and under the oath administered they have to make.

The next paper, headed "Act of Inquest," refers to the inquest on the second body, which was found unburied. The preliminary observations and the persons engaged are the same as before, and the examiners are directed to proceed to the examination of the corpse which is before them (no mention being made of the position or circumstances in which the corpse was found), and to answer the questions alongside. It is to be noted that this second examination is stated to have taken place at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, though the previous examination is stated to have been at half-past 3 in the evening of the same day, 22nd June.

The corpse here treated of, as well as the two others next mentioned, were found a considerable distance from the shore, and the questions asked, and answers, show little difference. My observations thereon will be found at the conclusion. It may be mentioned in this place that the body treated of appears to have been of the lower orders, and was partly dressed with coarse trousers, and shirt and stockings; the type was scarcely that of an Englishman.

The closing and signature being the same as before are omitted.

The opening of the next examination of a corpse is the same as before, and also the questions, which are therefore omitted; this examination is stated to have taken place at two o'clock and twenty minutes on the same 22nd day of June.

The answers are as stated alongside.

The conclusion and signatures being the same as before are omitted.

In continuation.

To the first question they answered that it is truly dead; to the second question they

The next examination of a corpse is stated to have taken place at half-past two o'clock on the same day. The opening and questions

answered that drowned by the sea; to the third question they answered that the same sea; to the fourth question they answered that wrecked as it appears; to the fifth question they answered that all eat by animals, that it is a white man, hair and beard reddish yellow. These are the declarations that in their consciences and under the aforesaid oath they have to make.

being the same as before are omitted; the answers are given alongside.

The conclusion and signatures being the same as before are omitted.

Conclusion of Consul's Observations.

It appears to me that the foregoing report of inquest is unworthy of confidence, because the persons appointed to make the examination were unfit for the duty which they had to perform, one of the two especially being a person who ought not to have been nominated, and whose declarations in a case where he is so nearly interested could carry no weight. Again it is shown by the last three reports that the questions are word for word alike, and answers nearly so, yet there was no small difference in the cases in regard to those three corpses: there was one in almost a perfect state, dressed with trousers, shirt, and stockings; the parts below the belly, as in the first-named case, had disappeared, and the inner parts were shown in a decomposed state, but the skin otherwise was perfect, though the skull was fractured; this I state as the body appeared when brought to the cemetery. The other two, according to the assertion of the carter who brought them up, were stated to have been found embraced together; the head and features, hands, arms, and feet of both were in a sound state, as also the skin of the breast with the exception of two openings between the ribs, in the one corpse large, in the other lesser, which the doctor assured me might have arisen by the stretching of the skin, or from birds; one of those corpses was more decayed than the other, the rest of the bodies were mere skeletons. With regard also to the position and circumstances of the three last-mentioned corpses, the report is ominously silent: the escort who conducted those bodies stated they were found in the plains near the Rio da Baeta, and were completely stripped of clothes. All the bodies are stated to have had light hair, yet one of them had thick jet black hair.

The word "strangled" ("estrangulado" having the same meaning in Portuguese and in English), used in reference to the corpse secondly-mentioned, caused the authorities lately to apply to the examiners for an explanation, and they now explain in effect that they did not use the word in its common signification, but to show that the body was in a very bad state. In order to test how far such a declaration should be believed, it may be observed that the examinations are stated to have taken place at 3:30 P.M., 1 P.M., 2:20 P.M., and 2:30 P.M., respectively. It may, therefore, be inferred that the two last examinations related to the corpses found in juxtaposition, which were in a much worse condition than the other two; and it scarcely seems credible that the word "estrangulado" should have been applied, with the fantastical meaning now sought to be attached, to the corpse which was in a better state, and omitted in regard to the two others which were in a far worse state, more especially as there is no other notable difference in the answers. In order to form a just opinion upon this difficult point it should be noted that the examiners are made to declare that the body alluded to had been drowned and death caused by the sea; but the word "strangled" is well known in the country parts and is often applied to death caused by the lasso. No difficulty would, however, occur in the interpretation were it supposed that the examiners believed that the body had been found drowned, and afterwards had been dragged to the position where it was found.

The neck of the corpse in question I did not examine, as I had then no knowledge of the report now sent; therefore I cannot say if there were any mark of strangulation thereon.

It will be remembered that I applied to the authorities on the 18th June, 1861, to send with the corpses any clothes or other articles found adjoining or near to the deceased, and a note as to how they were found. Nothing is said in the reports on this subject, and the last two corpses were wholly without even a remnant of clothes. No statement is made as to the clothes which were on the second corpse, and regarding those on the first the statements are not correct. All these circumstances show at least an

unpardonable negligence on the part of the authorities charged with the inquiries in so serious a case.

British Consulate, Rio Grande do Sul,

June 4, 1862.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER, *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 40.

Report of Inquest at the Cemetery for Protestants of Rio Grande do Sul on Four Bodies Wrecked from the Barque "Prince of Wales."

Translation.

Consul's Observations.

Act of examination and inquest made on four corpses sent from Tahim by the Sub-Delegate of Police in virtue of the request which Her Britannic Majesty's Consul made to this Delegacy, and which are said to belong to the crew of the English barque "Prince of Wales" wrecked at Romeiro.

On the 24th day of the month of June in the year from the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ 1861, in this city of Rio Grande do Sul, in the cemetery for Protestants outside the fortifications: present, Captain Antonio Estevão de Bitancourt e Silva, with me, the Secretary of his office, and witnesses undersigned, Doctor José de Pontes França, skilled person, the Hon. Henry Prendergast Vereker, Consul of Her Britannic Majesty, the Delegate administered to the skilled person in his hands the oath on the Holy Evangelists well and faithfully to declare with truth that which he should meet with, and in his conscience understand, and charged him that he should proceed to an examination on the corpses which were there having come from outside, and which are said to belong to the crew of the English barque "Prince of Wales," the which were ordered to be disinterred in virtue of the request of the respective Consul, and that he should answer the following questions:—

- 1st. If the death was made?
- 2nd. If the death was due to drowning?
- 3rd. What the damage caused?

And the skilled person having proceeded to the examination ordered declared, the following:—

That one of the four corpses, which the conductors affirmed had been disinterred, was of ordinary stature, above fifty inches, thin, skin white, with little hair, and those of the head were from four to five inches long, thick, and of a light chestnut colour, the whiskers the colour of fire and almost up to the angles of the lips, face oblong, nose aquiline, he had no mark natural or made, the skin was easily detached, the genitals in complete putrefaction, and also the lower part of the belly, where the intestines were seen in complete putrefaction. He was dressed with a shirt of blue baize turned over the head, and only attached to the

The Secretary and witnesses, undersigned, were not present; but this circumstance seems immaterial, as the habit of making such false declarations in public documents is common in Brazil. My clerk was present, but was not asked to sign as a witness.

One body only was disinterred, the others were found unburied.

body by the neck and wrists, which were buttoned; old drawers of light white baize with three mendings in the part facing the thighs, the left foot and leg naked, and the right with stocking and thick boot; and, therefore, he answers to the first question.

There is not any indication which makes to suspect that the death was caused by another; to the second, that it is probable that the death was due to drowning in water; and that he cannot value the damage caused. And as there was nothing more to examine and declare upon this corpse, the Delegate concluded this examination, and passed to examine the second body which the conductors declared had not been disinterred, but really met with on the ground.

He declared that the corpse was of regular stature, more than fifty inches in height, fat, skin white without characteristic mark, natural or made, the hairs of the head six to seven inches long, thick, and of a black colour, face large and rounded, whiskers black, and fronting the ears a little more than two inches wide, the nose small and in complete putrefaction, also the genitals and lower belly, where there was a large opening, whence came out an abundant flowing of putrid blood from the intestines, which by that place were seen in complete putrefaction; the skin was detached by the least compression. He was with shirt and trowsers of thick canvass and old, with dark stockings and without shoes; and, therefore, he answers to the first question, if the death was made? No, there is no indication or signal which points out that the death was produced by another. To the second, that it is probable that the death was due to drowning in water; and that he cannot value the damage caused.

It is to be remarked that the Portuguese word "chão" used here, in the original, to designate ground, regularly means the solid ground, and the soil of which it is composed; it would scarcely be applied to the immediate shore of the sea, or to those parts reached by the high tides.

Consul's Observations.

The above evidence is somewhat exaggerated; where the opening existed below the belly there was certainly coagulated blood, but not that abundant flowing stated. The examining doctor pressed the skin with his cane in various parts, but did not break it. The word used in the original is "epiderme," meaning the epidermis, or thin outward skin; but I do not understand the medical meaning of the word "destacava-se" (was detached) as employed in this case. Again, when the examiner states that "there is no indication or signal which points out that the death was produced by another," I agree with him in so far that there was no proof that the individual had suffered by the hands of another, and I see no sufficient reason to think he had; but the skull was fractured, the indenture on the left side, and the fracture over the left eye, and discoloration of the bone and skin on the left temple, being quite perceptible, and immediately noticed by several who attended the funeral. The fact of the fracture ought certainly to have been mentioned in the Report of Inquest, and the withholding of the information only adds another to the many incidents which show that the Brazilian authorities desire in this case to conceal all which might create a suspicion that any belonging to the "Prince of Wales" were murdered. My reasons for not attributing the death of the body under consideration to assassination are as follows: The modes of assassination adopted in this country are usually three—strangling with the lasso, stabbing with knives, or killing

with the "bolas" (leaden or iron balls covered with leather). Now in this particular case I did not examine the neck, so can say nothing with regard to the possible strangling; on the body no marks of stabs were found; and the indenture of the skull was so great that it scarcely seems possible to have been the result of a blow from the "bolas," but rather as though a heavy body, such as a spar, had crushed the skull, or the head had been driven with violence against such a body. Besides, though there were fourteen persons on board the barque, and the bodies of ten were acknowledged to have been found, the bodies of four only were delivered up; it is therefore against all probability that those proving crime would have been exhibited when the others were wilfully withheld. The examination then proceeds as follows:—

Translation.

And there being nothing more to examine nor to declare upon this corpse, he passed to examine the other two, which were also found on the ground, the Delegate ordering that the same skilled person should answer regarding them by the questions presented respecting the first; and the aforesaid skilled person, Dr. José de Pontes França, passing to make the examinations ordered, declared: That these two corpses (of the four come from outside) were in complete putrefaction and destruction of the covering, there remaining some skin on the ribs, face, and skull, which showed they were of clear persons, as well as the hairs of the head and beard were five to six inches in length, light chestnut colour, or almost reddish-yellow; of regular stature, above 50 inches in height, wholly stripped; and therefore he answers that he can say nothing regarding the probable cause of the death of these two individuals: also that he makes no valuation regarding the damages caused, the conductors having declared that these corpses were unburied in a place of the solid earthy ground ("terreno solido"), and within reach of the great tides. And as there was nothing more the Delegate finished these examinations, of which the present act is drawn up, which goes written by me, and countersigned by the Delegate, signed by the same skilled person, the Consul of Her Britannic Majesty, and witnesses present, with me the Secretary Francisco Vicente Nobrega, who wrote it, and of all give faith.

(Signed) ANTONIO ESTEVAO DE BITAN-
COURT E SILVA.

DOCTOR JOSE DE PONTES FRANCA.

H. P. VEREKER, *Her Britannic
Majesty's Consul, Rio Grande
do Sul, as having been present.*

APOLINARIO JESUINO DE OLIV-
VEIRA, *Porto Alegre.*

MANOEL MARTINS VIANNA.

FRANCISCO VICENTE NOBREGA.

It agrees.

The Secretary,

(Signed) FRANCISCO VICENTE NOBREGA.

Consul's Observations.

I was present when the inquiries were made of the police-escort who had conducted the bodies. The matter made a great impression on my mind at the time, and has since been continually brought to my recollection. My remembrance, therefore, of the sense of the answers is very perfect, though I might not state the very words used. The delegate asked the police where the bodies had been found. They said, Near the River Baeta. He asked whether they were on the shore. They replied, that the one buried was on the shore, but the others unburied were "no campo," which means in the open plain. He asked again, how far they were from the shore. And the soldier Pedro, an intelligent Indian, who was the spokesman, replied, that they were at least three to four quadras from the shore. The quadra, as generally used here, means the distance from one street in a town to another, or about 300 feet; thus the bodies would have been at least 900 feet distance from the shore, and the words used clearly show that those bodies were not brought to such a position by the sea, as upon this shore the line of the reach of the sea is most clearly marked, in consequence of the coast in the lower parts consisting wholly of fine sand; and there is a rising of the sand or an eating away of the land in those parts where the highest tides reach, which clearly divide the shore from the inland parts. It will thus be seen that the declaration made by the Police Secretary that the two last corpses were found within reach of the high tides is not only gratuitous on his part, but is manifestly false and even contradicting the previous evidence. Again, in this instance, is exhibited the desire of the Brazilian authorities to prevent the suspicion of assassination. Although I am most unwilling to refer to words which may have been intended to be private, yet I feel that in so serious a case I ought not to omit to mention that when the Delegate of Police heard Pedro's answer as to the distance of the bodies from the shore, he shook his head, and turning from the soldiers towards me, he muttered partly as it were to himself, "All goes to prove it,

all goes to prove it," or words to that effect, evidently alluding to previous conversations we had held regarding the possibility of violence having been offered to the crew. When returning he asked me, in the presence of Dr. França and Mr. Aveline, not to state in my Report anything that would compromise the country, as the case was a disgrace to Brazil. I replied that my duty was a painful one, but I must report what I believed to be the truth. I should add here, that when the last two corpses, entangled or clasped together, were being taken out of the cart which had brought them, the carter, a man of apparently Spanish extraction, exclaimed, "That is the way the poor fellows were found together!" or words to that effect. In view of that assertion I have stated that those bodies were found together.

Finally, I should observe that when this Report of Inquest was presented to me for signature, I objected to affix my name, as I did not agree in all the statements made; the Police Secretary, who brought it, however, averred that my signature only implied my having been present, and though this was clearly the fact, I yet considered it right to sign, with the saving clause that I did so merely "as having been present," thus clearly pointing out that I did not agree in the Report, though I did not consider it necessary to protest against the false statements made.

*British Consulate, Rio Grande do Sul,
June 4, 1862.*

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER, Consul.

No. 41.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received August 6.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 23, 1862.

I INCLOSE a translation of a passage from the Annual Report of the Department of Foreign Affairs, lately presented by Senhor Taques to the Legislature, relating to the shipwreck of the barque "Prince of Wales."

None of the correspondence on this subject is published in the Appendix to the Report. Senhor Taques states that full and stringent instructions were given to the President of Rio Grande do Sul before any complaint or demand was received from Her Majesty's Government, and he makes no mention of the second demand for further inquiry and reparation made by me on the 17th of March, in consequence of which steps have been taken, showing that the President of Rio Grande admits that his former proceedings were insufficient. The object of Senhor Taques in his statement is, as usual, to assume the credit for the Brazilian authorities of doing, of their own accord, all that is proper.

The recent visit of Her Majesty's ships "Oberon" and "Sheldrake" had caused much comment and some excitement. Senhor Taques makes no mention of the visit of these men of war, but this event has doubtless increased his anxiety to save the dignity of the Brazilian Government before the Brazilian public.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure in No. 41.

Extract from the Report of Senhor Taques to the Legislative Assembly of Brazil, presented on the 13th of May, 1862.

(Translation.)

THE SHIPWRECK OF THE ENGLISH BARQUE "PRINCE OF WALES."—By a despatch from the President of Rio Grande de São Pedro do Sul, dated the 3rd of last July, the Imperial Government was informed of the wreck of the English barque "Prince of Wales," at the place called Albardao, on the coast of that province, and that the English Consul, the Judge of Commerce, the Assistant of the Chief Custom-house Guard, with a sufficient force, had proceeded to the spot for the purpose of taking charge of the goods saved, and to succour the shipwrecked persons.

At the same time the Imperial Government was informed, not only that many of the goods saved were supposed to have been stolen, but that the British Consul attributed to the want of necessary exertions on the part of the competent authority the fact that only four corpses of the shipwrecked crew had been met with, while the Inspector of the place asserted that a greater number had been buried, thus leading to the suspicion that some of them had been murdered.

In replying to these communications of the President of Rio Grande do Sul, the Imperial Government very pressingly instructed that functionary to give to this matter his most serious consideration, in order that the truth might be elicited, and that those who might be proved guilty of the alleged outrage might be prosecuted and punished.

Subsequently, under date of the 25th of October, Her Britannic Majesty's Legation at this Court, referring to communications from the Consul in Rio Grande, addressed the Imperial Government, stating the above-mentioned facts, and calling for the punishment of their authors.

The Imperial Government communicated to the President of Rio Grande this demand, and repeated its instructions, telling the President that in order to arrive at the desired result, the discovery of the truth, he should spare no effort, for the Government considered its dignity involved in this affair, and was firm in the intention of punishing so great a crime, and making an example of its authors.

The difficulties inseparable from the inquiries in question, considering the distances, localities, and the qualities and conditions of the individuals who reside in or pass through them, have retarded the action of the authorities, so that these have not yet been able to arrive at a positive and exact knowledge of the facts complained of.

It is, however, gratifying to me to announce to you, that if from the correspondence up to this time received from the President of Rio Grande do Sul there is reason to believe that some articles saved from the wreck were stolen, it happily appears that the suspicions entertained of murders having been committed on the occasion of the shipwreck of the vessel are without foundation.

It is not less gratifying to me also to communicate to you that the President of the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, corresponding to the wishes and confidence of the Imperial Government, has proceeded in this affair with the greatest solicitude, judgment, and propriety; wherefore the Government nourishes a well-founded hope that the truth will soon be discovered, and justice accomplished, as the morality and civilization of our country requires.

No. 42.

Mr. Stephens to Earl Russell.—(Received August 15.)

My Lord,

15, Dixon Street, Glasgow, August 11, 1862.

I AM greatly troubled by the relatives of the captain and crew of the late barque "Prince of Wales," who seem dissatisfied with the delay of obtaining redress. I intend going to London to-night, and if your Lordship or your Secretary could spare a few minutes for an interview on this affair, it may enable me to give them some hope of redress. I would be obliged by your favouring me with a reply to Ryder's Hotel, Fleet Street.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. P. STEPHENS.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received August 22.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 20, 1862.

I INCLOSE a copy of a note which I have addressed to the Marquis d'Abrantes since receiving your Lordship's despatch of June 4, instructing me to continue to insist on a searching inquiry into the wreck of the "Prince of Wales" to be made in the presence of a British officer.

I am without any further communication from the Brazilian Government on this subject since the note of Senhor Taques of April 12, which was in your Lordship's possession when you sent me this last instruction; but having learnt by despatches from Mr. Vereker to your Lordship, which have since passed through my hands, that a new inquiry had taken place, and that certain minor officials were in consequence removed, or to be removed, I was anxious to learn from the Marquis of Abrantes, before acting on your Lordship's last instruction, whether it was his intention shortly to make any communication to me. I therefore sought his Excellency, and asked him the question. His reply, in general terms, was that proceedings were being taken against certain parties; he made no mention of officials. He stated that he was waiting for further information before he could make any communication to me, and he added that the Brazilian Government were convinced that the charge of murder was entirely disproved. I replied that Her Majesty's Consul continued to be of a different opinion; and after this interview I thought it well to address to his Excellency the note of which a copy is inclosed, and in which your Lordship will see that I have mentioned the opinion of Admiral Warren and Captain Saumarez, that the latter had not been treated by the authorities of Rio Grande do Sul with due courtesy and consideration.

I am aware that since the last information which your Lordship had when you sent me your last instructions, Mr. Consul Vereker has been requested to attend an inquiry held by the Delegate of Police, and has declined to do so for reasons which he has reported to your Lordship. But I have not felt certain whether by a British officer your Lordship meant a British naval officer, or, generally, a British functionary.

In the inclosed note I have used your Lordship's words. This note may yet stimulate the Brazilian Government to further proceedings and admissions. The tone of it is, I think, such that your Lordship will find no difficulty, if you should wish it, from causes hereafter shown, or even on account of additional information already in your possession, in modifying or receding from the demand of a new inquiry in the presence of a British officer.

The disingenuous statement lately published on this subject by Senhor Taques in his Annual Report, to which I have called your Lordship's attention in my despatch of June 23, has helped to determine me to write the inclosed note; and generally, the slowness of the Brazilian Government, and their unwillingness to admit themselves in fault, make as much pressure as possible desirable.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure in No. 43.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, July 16, 1862.

I FORWARDED to Lord Russell a copy of the note addressed to me by Senhor Taques, on the 19th April, on the subject of the unfortunate events connected with the wreck of the English barque "Prince of Wales," and replying to Mr. Baillie's note of the 27th of October of last year, and to mine of 17th March last.

While stating the desire of Her Majesty's Government for a more searching inquiry into all the painful circumstances connected with the wreck in question, with a view both to punishment and indemnity, I had informed Senhor Taques, in my note of the 17th of March, that I had requested the British Admiral to send an experienced naval officer to Rio Grande do Sul, and I offered his assistance in any inquiry which the Brazilian Government shall institute. Senhor Taques, in his note of the 19th April, stated that fresh instructions had been sent to the President of Rio Grande do Sul for further investigation, and for punishment of the guilty parties, but he declined the offered aid of a British naval officer.

In the meantime the British Admiral had sent from Monte Video to Rio Grande do Sul his flag-captain, Captain Saumarez, and this officer had proceeded with Her Majesty's Consul, Mr. Vereker, to Porto Alegre, to wait on the President of the Province. The President promised Captain Saumarez and Her Majesty's Consul to give orders immediately to the Chief of Police to hold a new inquiry, at which it was agreed that Captain Saumarez should, with Her Majesty's Consul, be present, though the President declined to admit him to take an official part in it. Captain Saumarez then returned with Her Majesty's Consul to Rio Grande do Sul, where they were to receive a communication as to the promised inquiry from the Chief of Police, and having waited there from the 8th of April to the 18th without hearing anything, either from the President of the Province, or from the Chief of Police, who was in Rio Grande do Sul in the interval, Captain Saumarez returned to Monte Video for other duties, and he returned with the feeling, which is shared by the Admiral who sent him, that he had not been treated by the Brazilian authorities with due consideration and courtesy.

Her Majesty's Government having before them the note of Senhor Taques of the 19th of April, and being informed of the return of Captain Saumarez to Monte Video, have instructed me to say that they are of opinion that this question, full of painful suggestions, cannot be satisfactorily disposed of without a thorough inquiry made in the presence of a British officer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 44.

Earl Russell to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 30, 1862.

I APPROVE of the note which you addressed to M. d'Abrantes, and copy of which is inclosed in your despatch of the 20th ultimo, pressing for a further and more satisfactory investigation into the circumstances of the wreck of the vessel "Prince of Wales."

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 45.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received September 2.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 7, 1862.

I HAVE to bring a disagreeable incident to your Lordship's knowledge, and I inclose—

1. Copy of a letter from Rear-Admiral Warren dated June 22, complaining in very strong terms of ill-treatment by Brazilian police authorities of three officers of his flag-ship, one of them the chaplain.

2 to 5. Copies of reports made to the Admiral by Captain Saumarez and by the three officers inclosed in Admiral Warren's letter to me.

6 and 7. Copy of report made to me by Her Majesty's Acting Consul, and translation of the letter of the Chief of Police to him.

8. Copy of a note to me from the Marquis d'Abrantes, Minister for Foreign Affairs, dated July 17, and inclosing a report from M. Sinimbu, the Acting Minister of Justice, of the result of an inquiry into the affair instituted by the Chief of Police.

9 to 11. Translations of M. Sinimbu's despatch to the Marquis d'Abrantes, and of report of Chief of Police to M. Sinimbu, and summary of documents inclosed in the report of the Chief of Police.

12. Copy of reply of the three officers to the report of the Chief of Police.

Your Lordship will observe that the Minister for Foreign Affairs in transmitting to me M. Sinimbu's report expresses no opinion on the affair, but that M. Sinimbu thinks the report of the Chief of Police convincing, and the complaint of Admiral Warren groundless.

Immediately on receipt of the Marquis d'Abrantes' note of the 17th July, I wrote to him asking for a copy of the evidence taken by the Chief of Police. It was immediately promised, but I did not receive the evidence till late in the evening of the 2nd instant,

Saturday, and I should not have received it even then but for my having written pressingly to M. Sinimbú, and it appears from his reply to me, of which Inclosure 13 is a copy, that no steps had been taken for copying the evidence, and he sends me the original depositions.

I have received these depositions too late to be able to forward translations of them by this packet, or even to act upon them in any way before the packet leaves. Immediately after the departure of the packet they will be communicated to the three officers for any observations they may wish to make on them; and I shall then confer with the Admiral on the whole question, and afterwards with the Marquis d'Abrantes, and I shall make a further report to your Lordship by the French steamer leaving this on the 25th instant, which you will receive in the middle of September.

I make the present incomplete report, the Admiral sending a similar one to the Admiralty for the following reason. The hot weather, and other reasons, may render the Admiral's departure for the River Plate desirable in December, and it may in that case be important for us to receive instructions from Her Majesty's Government in the beginning of November. The preliminary reports now sent may, therefore, facilitate the sending of final instructions by the English packet of October.

I reserve for my next report my own opinion on the question, and will simply say now that the Admiral regards the affair as more serious than that for which he has lately, under a threat of force, obtained satisfaction at Monte Video.

The Brazilian Government do not seem to regard it at all in the same light, and I think it important to explain to your Lordship in detail the apathy and slowness which they have hitherto shown. The Admiral's letter dated the 22nd June was handed by him to me on the morning of Monday, the 24th, just as I was leaving Rio for a week, under engagements of some standing, to pay some visits, and for change of air on account of my health. On my way out of town I called at the house of the Marquis d'Abrantes, and in his absence saw his Secretary. I explained to the latter the object of my visit, read to him the Admiral's letter, begged him to represent the matter to his chief as urgent, and told him that Admiral Warren particularly wished an early inquiry, as he might be obliged to leave Rio in a few days, and it would be inconvenient to him to find himself compelled to leave the chaplain and the other two officers behind him. I begged the Secretary to state this to the Marquis, and to add that Mr. Eliot would call on his Excellency the next morning before 10, his usual hour of receiving, in order to apply to him officially on my behalf for a full and early inquiry. Mr. Eliot went and placed in the hands of the Marquis d'Abrantes the Admiral's letter and its inclosures. His Excellency expressed great concern for what had happened, for the matter had become the talk of the town, and there was a general feeling that the officers had been treated shamefully, and he promised to take the proper steps immediately for an inquiry.

When I had returned to Rio on the 1st July no inquiry had taken place, and no steps had been taken for holding one. The Admiral had, in the meantime, proceeded to Monte Video, leaving the three officers behind him.

I then went, accompanied by the Senior Naval Officer in port, to the Marquis d'Abrantes to urge him again to have an immediate inquiry, and enable these three officers to make their statements that they might be free to proceed in a few days to join the Admiral at Monte Video in one of Her Majesty's ships which was going there. He referred me to the Acting Minister of Justice, whom I found with some difficulty, and it was then arranged that the Chief of Police should hold an inquiry, and hear the officers, on the 4th July.

The Marquis d'Abrantes transmitted to me on the 17th the report of the Chief of Police, but not the depositions.

I have already explained that I immediately asked for a copy of the depositions, that they were promised me, and that on the 2nd of August no steps had been taken for having them copied for me. The consequence is that Admiral Warren and myself are prevented from making complete reports by this packet, which leaves Rio seven weeks after the incident.

It appears to me that the Brazilian Government have proceeded with a slowness and indifference quite unsuitable to the gravity of the incident and the serious character of Admiral Warren's complaints, and quite inconsistent with the first tone and promises of the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I have, &c,
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 45.

Rear-Admiral Warren to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

"Forte," Rio de Janeiro, June 22, 1862.

A MOST brutal outrage was committed on three officers belonging to Her Majesty's ship "Forte" on the evening of the 17th instant by the guard stationed on the Tijuca-hill, the details from which you will learn from the inclosed copies of the statements of the officers themselves, and I have the honour to request your co-operation in obtaining from the Brazilian Government a searching inquiry into this most atrocious outrage in order that the offenders may be brought to punishment, and ample reparation made for the indignities placed on the national honour, by the brutal assault made on the persons of these officers.

By the above-mentioned statement you will perceive that the officer of the guard was perfectly aware of the rank and nationality of these officers when he submitted them to the indignity of marching into the city as if they had been the worst of criminals, for on the remark of Lieutenant Pringle, he says, "Although you are officers you are only ordinary prisoners."

When brought to the filthy den in which they were confined for some time with the lowest and worst description of prisoners, the official who received them there also stated that he was perfectly aware of their rank and nation.

Even the application of Her Majesty's Consul was not for some time successful in obtaining their removal into a decent place of confinement, and to crown all after having been subjected to this disgraceful treatment for forty hours they are told to go about their business; no inquiry whatever having been gone into. A more outrageous proceeding altogether I have never heard of.

The Captain of Her Majesty's ship "Forte" himself went to the Chief of Police, stated who the officers were, and pledged himself to produce them when called for; but that official refused to accede to this request, and does not appear even then to have taken any steps to remove them to a proper place of confinement, although made acquainted by the Captain with their rank and nationality.

When you have perused these details I feel convinced you will agree with me that not a moment in demanding from the Brazilian Government the most searching inquiry and reparation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. L. WARREN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 45.

Captain Saumarez to Rear-Admiral Warren.

Sir,

"Forte," Rio de Janeiro, June 20, 1862.

WHEN walking onshore with Captain Henry of the "Stromboli" about 5 o'clock P. M. of the 18th instant, I was informed that two officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte" were in prison. I at once went to the Chief of Police, the Consulate being closed, and requested to know if such was the case, and the charge against them, pointing out that one was the Clergyman of the ship, the other a Lieutenant, and requested their immediate release, pledging to produce them at any moment he wished to see them; he refused, stating they were in for striking the guard, and the depositions would be taken next morning. I pointed out to him the rank of these officers, and more especially as to one being a Minister of religion; but all in vain, he refused in any way to release them. I then requested to be informed who was the next in rank I could see; he said the Minister of Justice, but even he could not release them.

I then proceeded to the Brazilian flag-ship. The Admiral not being on board, I stated the circumstances and gave the name and rank of these officers, requesting his assistance.

Next morning I proceeded with the Vice-Consul to the Chief of Police, whom we found out, but an order for the release of these officers had been given, and on whom I have called for their depositions, which I beg to annex.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOS. SAUMAREZ, *Captain.*

P. S.—I may add that these officers were in plain clothes, having obtained permission to go into the country.

(Signed)

T. SAUMAREZ.

Inclosure 3 in No. 45.

The Rev. G. Clemenger to Captain Saumarez.

Sir,

"Forte," Rio de Janeiro, June 20, 1862.

IN compliance with your order I have the honour to lay before you a statement of a most unwarrantable and brutal assault made against my person and liberty on the evening of Tuesday 17th June.

When returning from Tijuca to take the "Machambomba" at 7 o'clock for Rio, and passing by a Police guard-house, a sentinel advanced towards me and made a motion with his musket and fixed bayonet. I addressed him in the following words, "Que quere V.?" He immediately struck me on the chest with the butt of his musket, and made an attempt to stab me, at the same time calling out the whole of the guard, who rushed on me with bayonets and swords, the aforesaid sentry striking me a second time with his musket.

I was then dragged into the guard-room and placed in confinement till the officer of the guard came and asked for an explanation and my address, which I gave him.

During this time Mr. Pringle and Mr. Hornby had been most grossly treated, and afterwards placed in confinement. Several times during the evening I told the officer of the guard who I was.

On Wednesday morning I was placed under an escort of seven soldiers, policemen, and obliged to walk into Rio, though I had requested to be allowed to hire a conveyance, which was refused. On my arrival at the police-station I was ordered to give my name and address, and then was confined in a prison full of men and boys of the lowest grade of society for the space of two hours, but through the intercession of Mr. Tupper was removed to another prison something cleaner than the first; here I remained for one hour and a half. I was then removed to the head police-station and treated with every courtesy requisite.

On Thursday morning at 11 o'clock an officer came into our room, and informed us that we were liberated, without giving us any information why we had been confined, or what charge had been brought against us.

I have to request that you will have this matter thoroughly investigated, that English naval officers may no more suffer such ignominious treatment as we have.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. CLEMENGER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 45.

Lieutenant Pringle to Captain Saumarez.

Sir,

"Forte," Rio de Janeiro, June 20, 1862.

IN compliance with your orders I have the honour to submit to you the following account of a most brutal outrage which was committed against my person and liberty by some of the guard at Tijuca Hill at about 6.40 P.M. on Tuesday, 17th June, 1862.

While hastening down to catch the "machambomba," with Mr. Clemenger, Chaplain, and Mr. Hornby, Midshipman, I saw Mr. Clemenger accosted by a sentinel. The former stopped, and said, "Que quere V.?" The words were scarcely uttered, when, in the most unwarrantable manner, the sentry struck him in the chest with the butt of his musket and called for the guard, who immediately hurried out and seized us in a most rough manner and took my stick out of my hand. I then requested them to unhand me; they not doing so I resisted, and attempted to resume my walk, but was overpowered by numbers of police with drawn swords and bayonets, who struck me with them and maltreated me in the grossest manner; I being also struck near the groin with the butt of the sentinel's musket. I was then forced into a prison in the guard-house, where I called for the officer of the guard, who, after some delay, inquired into our case, and asked for our names and address, which we gave in full on two occasions. We explained to him fully the circumstances of the case, and complained to him of the gross treatment we had received; also making him fully aware, as also the rest of the guard, that we were British naval officers. At his request we wrote to the English Consul and to yourself, which letters he promised to forward early on Wednesday morning.

The following morning, Wednesday 18th June, he ordered us to march down to Rio under an escort. We then asked him to allow us a carriage, the expense of which we offered to defray. He, however, refused; giving as a reason that although we were officers we were ordinary prisoners. We were then marched down to Rio at 9 o'clock in an ignominious manner under an escort of seven policemen. At the Rio police-office we again gave our names in full, rank and address, and were then ushered into a filthy

den, where were men and boys of the lowest society. At the threshold of this detention-room I asked the official if he were perfectly aware of our rank and country; he answered in the affirmative, and we went in, where we remained for two hours. The Consul having us removed to a better prison, which was notwithstanding filthy, we were kept there about an hour and a half, when, through the intervention of Mr. Tupper and the Consul, we were removed in a carriage to a barrack in the town and placed in comfortable quarters, where we were well treated.

On Thursday morning, a little before noon, the officer of the guard showed us a letter from the Chief of Police, ordering him to set our bodies at liberty. I then inquired the reason and on what grounds we were liberated, our case not having been heard by a judge or any competent person, and whether we were on remand or bail; but he afforded me no information further than that we were free.

I also must mention the perversion of truth of which the officer commanding the guard at Tijuca was guilty: firstly, in not forwarding our letters, as he promised to do; secondly, in his charge against us calling us three unknown foreigners, as we refused to give our names; this latter being a most direct falsehood, we having, as stated above, given our names, ranks, and addresses on two separate occasions. Through this latter falsehood he was able to get us put into the filthy detention-room of the police when we arrived at Rio.

The charges also, which I heard by an indirect source, will by the above statement, be shown to be most egregiously false.

Hoping that you will take such steps as you consider necessary to obtain redress for this gross outrage offered by Brazilian officials to three unoffending British naval officers, as also to prevent its recurrence, I have, &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ELIOT PRINGLE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 45.

Mr. Hornby to Captain Saumarez.

Sir,

“*Forte*,” Rio de Janeiro, June 20, 1862.

WHILST coming down from Tijuca on Tuesday, the 17th instant, in company with Mr. Clemenger and Mr. Pringle, for the purpose of meeting the “Machambomba,” leaving at 7 o’clock, we passed the Tijuca guard-house. The sentry advanced towards us, and Mr. Clemenger, not knowing him to be a police, addressed him with the words, “Que quere V.?” The sentry immediately made two or three thrusts at him with his fixed bayonet, and then struck him in the chest with the butt, at the same time calling out for the whole guard, who immediately rushed out on us, took our sticks and Mr. Clemenger’s umbrella, and overpowered us and conveyed us into the guard-house by main force, at the same time making free use of the flats of their swords and bayonets. The guard consisted of from twenty to thirty persons. We were then locked up, and remained there till the officer of the guard arrived, when one of us were called out and explained that we had not the least idea of creating a disturbance, and also told him we were English officers.

We were again shut up for the night, and having written two letters,—one to yourself and the other to the Vice-Consul,—explaining where we were and how we had got there, we were then told that they should be sent immediately, and that they would arrive at their destination at about 9 o’clock next morning:

In the morning we were informed that we were to be removed with a guard to Rio. We offered to pay for a conveyance, or take the “machambomba,” both of which were refused us; but we were told that if we walked about an hour’s walk to another station, we should there get a conveyance to save us the unpleasantness of being marched through the town with a guard of seven police, as we eventually were.

On arriving at the Rio Station, we were asked to sign our names and ranks, which we all did, and were then locked up in the most disgusting den possible, among all the blackguards of the town.

We then managed to send a note to the Consul, asking him if he had received our previous letter, and begging him to come and demand that, as officers, we should be treated as such and not degraded in the way we were.

The Consul came and had us removed to a place a little better, but still most filthy, and informed us that we should remain there till the Chief of Police came, who we should see.

He came, but we did not see him; however, he gave an order for us to be removed to the State Prison, where we were better treated.

I hope, Sir, you will be kind enough to cause an investigation to take place to prevent such proceedings for the future.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GEOFFREY HORNBY, *Midshipman*.

Inclosure 6 in No. 45.

Acting Consul Hollocombe to Mr. Christie.

Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, June 30, 1862.*

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Excellency the following report of my visit to the Police Office in this city on the 18th instant, the day following the arrest of three officers belonging to Her Majesty's ship "Forte."

On hearing that the Chaplain of the "Forte" was imprisoned, I immediately proceeded to the police station, and there saw that officer, together with two others, confined in the "xadrez" or common lock-up.

The Chief of Police not being then in the office, I called on the Secretary, who informed me that the prisoners referred to had been apprehended for shooting without a license; and that as soon as the Chief of Police returned he would acquaint him of my visit, when he had no doubt they would be set at liberty. The Secretary, immediately I informed him that the prisoners were officers of Her Majesty's navy, ordered them to be removed to another place of confinement, and this I saw effected before I left the station.

The charge brought against these officers, as given to me by the Secretary, appeared so frivolous that I fully expected they would be at once released, and therefore did not call again to see the Chief of Police; but later in the day, on sending to the station, I ascertained that the three officers had been removed to the Quartel dos Permanentes. On the 20th instant I addressed a note to the Chief of Police, asking, for the information of Captain Saumarez, the reason that these officers had been apprehended, and the nature of the charge made against them; and I have now the honour to inclose a translation of the reply to my note.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. HOLLOCOMBE.

Inclosure 7 in No. 45.

Senhor da Gama to Acting Consul Hollocombe.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Police Office, Rio de Janeiro, June 21, 1862.*

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated yesterday, and in reply I have to state that the three officers belonging to the frigate "Forte," alluded to therein, were taken prisoners on the 17th instant by the ensign commanding the detachment at Tijuca for having attacked the sentry of that detachment and for attempting to force an entry into the respective guard-house.

God preserve, &c. (Signed) AGOSTINHO LUIZ DA GAMA.

Inclosure 8 in No. 45.

The Marquis of Abrantes to Mr. Christie.

Mon cher Monsieur, *Rio de Janeiro, le 17 Juillet, 1862.*

SOUS ce pli j'ai l'honneur de remettre à votre Excellence les documents que vous avez bien voulu me confier relatif aux trois officiers de la frégate "Forte," ainsi que la copie des informations que M. de Sinimbú m'a transmises sur cette affaire.

Je profite, &c.
(Signé) MARQUIS OF ABRANTES.

Inclosure 9 in No. 45.

Senhor Sinimbú to the Marquis of Abrantes.

(Translation.)

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

*Ministry of the Affairs of Justice,
Rio de Janeiro, July 9, 1862.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency, for your information and that of Her Britannic Majesty's Minister, the copy of a Report made to me by the Chief of Police of this capital, concerning the imprisonment of some officers of the English frigate "Forte," by a detachment of police stationed at Tijuca, and from this document your Excellency will see that the reasons on which the Commander-in-chief of that frigate founds the representation which he addressed to the Minister of his nation are insufficient.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JOAO LINS VIEIRA CANSANSO DE SINIMBU.

Inclosure 10 in No. 45.

Senhor de Gama to Senhor Sinimbú.

(Translation.)

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

*Police Office,
Rio de Janeiro, July 5, 1862.*

THE despatch of the 28th of June last, ordering, that in view of the representation addressed by Admiral Warren, Commander-in-chief of the English frigate "Forte," to Her Britannic Majesty's Minister at this Court, against the conduct of the soldiers of the police detachment of Tijuca, on the afternoon of the 17th, towards some officers of the said frigate, who, after having been ill treated by the said soldiers, were detained during that night in the guard-house, and were on the next day sent to the city, I should inform your Excellency, on this incident, ordering a minute investigation into the facts, I was anxious personally to make the most searching inquiries on the subject, interrogating, in the presence of those officers, the commander and soldiers of the police detachment of Tijuca, as well as two other persons, who might furnish some elucidations of the facts.

From these interrogatories, which I have the honour to transmit, in original, to your Excellency, it results as follows:—

1. That on the afternoon of the 17th of June last, three foreigners, having dined at the hotel of Robert Bennett, on the Tijuca Hill, where they had two bottles of Bordeaux wine, and half a bottle of Cognac, were proceeding to the city.

2. That on the road the said foreigners annoyed the passers by, attempting to unhorse an equestrian who was going home quietly, violently seizing the reins of the horse.

3. That at 7 o'clock in the evening the said strangers arrived at the station of the detachment, and going up the steps before the house, approached the sentinel there posted, one of them, named Clemenger, asking him, What are you doing there? And upon the sentinel telling them to retire, they broke out into threats with the sticks which they carried, threats which they put into execution, and began to strike the sentinel, who defended himself with the stock of his gun, without using his bayonet, in order not to wound them, and called the guard.

4. That the guard, coming out at the call of the sentinel, as also the ensign commanding it, all gentle measures were used for the apprehension of the three foreigners, who opposed the greatest resistance, laying hold of the soldiers, and falling on the ground with them, until at last they were taken, for which purpose the use of moderate force was indispensable.

5. That on the three foreigners being deposited in the guard-house, the ensign in command endeavoured to learn their names and descriptions, and, as they appeared ignorant of the Portuguese language, he employed the Austrian, Rodolph Müller, who lives in the neighbourhood, to put questions which they did not choose to answer, showing themselves haughty and scornful.

6. That notwithstanding their not choosing to give their names and conditions, the three strangers were treated by the commander of the detachment with the greatest kindness and urbanity, not only furnishing them with writing paper and playing cards, at their request, but also placing at their disposal his own bed, the only one in the guard-house.

7. That although these three foreigners were not completely drunk, they appeared not to be in full possession of their mental faculties.

8. That on the following day the three strangers were sent to this city, without their

having informed the commander of the detachment of their ranks as English naval officers, nor even given a hint on the subject. On the arrival of these three foreigners in this city, they were placed, not in the slaves' prison, but in that of freemen, where there might also be persons of colour, as, according to our legislation, there is no difference of prison on account of such condition.

As soon as it was known that these three individuals belonged to the English navy, they were immediately removed to another special prison, and upon Her Britannic Majesty's Vice-Consul declaring that they were officers of the English frigate "Forte," I sent them without loss of time to the barracks of the police corps, as appears from the official Report (copy No. 1), accompanied by the captain commanding the company of foot soldiers. At the same time I caused an order to be sent to the Sub-Delegate of the parish of Engenho Velho (copy No. 2), at whose disposal the English officers were in prison, to furnish me, immediately, with a circumstantial report of the imprisonment, and to transfer them to my disposal.

Having received, on the 19th of June, before 9 o'clock in the morning, the official reply of the Sub-Delegate (copy No. 3), and finding that there was no ground for instituting proceedings, as the acts of the English officers were merely the result of the state in which they were at the time, I at once gave orders for their discharge, as appears by the copy No. 4; not having done it before, as solicited by Captain Saumarez, because I had not yet received the official report of the Sub-Delegate, transferring them to my disposal, and ignorant of the cause of their imprisonment.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

AGOSTINHO LUIS DA GAMA.

Inclosure 11 in No. 45.

Précis of Documents connected with Arrest of Officers of the "Forte."

(Translation.)

No. 1. June 18, 1862. A. L. de Gama, Chief of Police, to M. P. Drago, Commandant of City Police.—Requests that George Clemenger, Eliot Pringle, and Geoffrey Hornby, may be kept in custody at disposal of Sub-Delegate of Engenho Velho.

No. 2. June 18. F. J. de Lima, Secretary of Chief of Police to Sub-Delegate of Engenho Velho.—The Chief of Police calls for a report on imprisonment of G. Clemenger, &c., and has them transferred to his own superintendence.

No. 3. June 19. Sub-Delegate of Engenho Velho to Chief of Police.—Incloses report of officer commanding detachment to Tijuca: transfers prisoners to the Chief of Police.

No. 4. June 19. Chief of Police to Commandant of City Police.—Directs that G. Clemenger, &c., be set at liberty.

No. 5. Inclosure to No. 3, June 18. Officer commanding detachment at Tijuca to Sub-Delegate of Engenho Velho.—I make known to you that I have ordered to be kept in the prison of the police, waiting your orders, three Englishmen who would not give their names, for attacking the sentry of this guard-house, and trying to enter it forcibly, it being necessary to use some force to put them in the prison.

Inclosure 12 in No. 45.

Reply of Mr. Clemenger, Chaplain, Lieutenant Pringle, and Mr. Hornby, Midshipman, of the "Forte," on the Statement of the Chief of Police relative to an attack made on those Officers by the Police stationed on Tijuca Hill.

Chief of Police states:—1. "That on the afternoon of the 17th June last, three foreigners, having dined at the hotel of Robert Bennett, on the Tijuca Hill, where they had two bottles of Bordeaux wine and half a bottle of Cognac, were proceeding to the city."

Officers' reply:—We beg to state that we arrived at the hotel at 3 P.M., where we had a glass of brandy and seltzer-water. About an hour and a-half after this we had dinner, drinking two bottles of claret. This comprised the whole of the refreshments we partook of, our hotel bill amounting to the sum of ten milreis."

Chief of Police:—2. "That on the road the said foreigners annoyed the passers-by, attempting to unhorse an equestrian who was going home quietly, violently seizing the reins of his horse."

Reply :—That on the road we annoyed no passers-by, nor did we attempt to unhorse an equestrian.

Chief of Police :—3. “That at 7 o'clock in the evening the said strangers arrived at the station of the detachment, and going up the steps before the house, approached the sentinel there posted, one of them, Clemenger, asking him, ‘What are you doing there?’ And upon the sentinel telling them to retire, they broke out into threats with the sticks which they carried, threats which they put into execution, and began to strike the sentinel, who defended himself with the stock of his gun, without using his bayonet, in order not to wound them, and called the guard.”

Reply :—At 7 o'clock in the evening we were passing the police station, but did not ascend the steps before the house; that Mr. Clemenger did address the sentry in the following words, “Que quere V.?” on the sentry rushing towards the steps; that no threats whatever were used, nor sticks. Mr. Clemenger had only a light umbrella in his hand. We did not strike the sentry, nor in any way give the slightest provocation for the cowardly manner in which the sentry struck Mr. Clemenger with the butt of his musket, and for the attempts with the point of his bayonet. The sentry did call the guard.

Chief of Police :—4. “That the guard coming out at the call of the sentinel, as also the Ensign commanding it, all gentle measures were used for the apprehension of the three foreigners, who opposed the greatest resistance, laying hold of the soldiers and falling on the ground with them, until at last they were taken, for which purpose the use of moderate force was indispensable.”

Reply :—That the guard did turn out, but the Ensign commanding did not appear until after we had been incarcerated in the Tijuca guard-room about ten minutes; that far from the guard using gentle measures, they rushed out with drawn swords and bayonets. No resistance whatever was made by two of the officers, and by the third only after he had received gross treatment. We were beaten with the backs of swords and drawn bayonets, as also several times by the butts of the sentry's musket; and that even after the third officer had been secured they continued their brutal treatment.

Chief of Police :—5. “That on the three foreigners being deposited in the guard-room, the Ensign in command endeavoured to learn their names and descriptions; and as they appeared to be ignorant of the Portuguese language, he employed the Austrian, Rudolph Müller, who lives in the neighbourhood, to put them questions, which they did not choose to answer, showing themselves haughty and scornful.”

Reply :—On our being deposited in the guard-house the Ensign then appeared for the first time, and asked us our names, which we gave him verbally and in writing. An Austrian did interpret for us, and fully explained to the Ensign our rank and profession, and we answered all his questions.

Chief of Police :—6. “That notwithstanding their not choosing to give their names and conditions, the three strangers were treated by the Commander of the detachment with the greatest kindness and urbanity, not only furnishing them with writing paper and playing cards at their request, but also placing at their disposal his own bed, the only one in the guard-house.”

Reply :—We beg to state most positively that we did give our names and professions several times to the police officer and interpreter. We were, in some respects, treated with civility by the officer of the guard, inasmuch as he provided us with paper, on which we wrote two letters, one to Captain Saumarez of the “Forte,” the other to the British Consul, and which the officer of the guard promised to forward; but on this point he broke his word, and the letters were never received by those to whom they were addressed. He also provided a pack of cards, and was kind enough to offer a bed to one of the officers.

Chief of Police :—7. “That although these three foreigners were not completely drunk, they appeared not to be in full possession of their mental faculties.”

Reply :—We consider it derogatory to us as officers to be forced into the statement that we were not drunk, but in full possession of our mental faculties.

Chief of Police :—8. “That on the following day these three strangers were sent to the city without their having informed the Commander of the detachment of their ranks as English naval officers, nor even given a hint on the subject. On the arrival of these three foreigners in this city they were placed not in the slave prison, but in that of free men, where there might also be persons of colour, as, according to our legislation, there is no difference of prison on account of colour, but only on account of such condition.

“As soon as it was known that the three individuals belonged to the English navy they were immediately removed to another special prison, and upon Her Britannic Vice-Consul declaring that they were officers of the English frigate the ‘Forte,’ I sent

them, without loss of time, to the barracks of the Police Corps, as appears from the official Report (copy No. 1), accompanied by the Captain commanding the company of foot soldiers. At the same time I caused an order to be sent to the Sub-Delegate of the parish of Engenho Velho (copy No. 2), at whose disposal the English officers were in prison, to furnish me immediately with a circumstantial account of their imprisonment, and to transfer them to my disposal.

"Having received on the 19th June, before 9 o'clock in the morning, the official reply of the Sub-Delegate (copy No. 3), and finding that there was no ground for instituting proceedings, as the acts of the English officers were merely the result of the state in which they were at the time, I at once gave orders for their discharge, as appears by Copy No. 4, not having done it before, as solicited by Captain Saumarez, because I had not yet received the official report of the Sub-Delegate transferring them to my disposal, and was ignorant of the cause of their imprisonment."

Reply :—The following day we were sent to the city on foot, under an escort of seven police ; and it is needless to state that the Ensign of Police was fully aware of our rank as English naval officers whilst enforcing this unnecessary proceeding, we having offered to pay for a conveyance to the city. On arriving at the city prison, we again gave in writing our names and ranks in full to an official ; and, before entering the filthy detention-room, we asked the official who showed us in if he were fully aware of our rank, and he answered in the affirmative. After the lapse of two hours we were removed to another prison, less filthy than the last, where we remained one hour and a half. We would observe that the subsequent fabrication of the charge of drunkenness brought against us was not mentioned in the original charge of Alfêres Amaral, of which we have a copy. It merely appears to be brought up as a means to give colour to their false accusations, and screen their cowardly proceedings ; also the grave charge of attacking a sentry, &c., being made against us, while no grounds were found for instituting proceedings.

And we declare that our replies, as above given, are true, and that we are ready to swear to the same if called on to do so.

Dated on board the "Forte," at Rio de Janeiro, 4th August, 1862.

(Signed)

GEORGE CLEMENGER, *Chaplain.*

ELIOT PRINGLE, *Lieutenant.*

GEOFFREY HORNBLY, *Midshipman.*

Approved, and signed in my presence, August 4, 1862.

(Signed)

T. SAUMAREZ, *Captain.*

Inclosure 13 in No. 45.

Senhor Sinimbu to Mr. Christie.

Mon cher M. Christie,

Caleté, le 2 Août, 1862.

J'ETAIS persuadé qu'on vous avait déjà envoyé les dépositions prises à la police relatives au sujet des officiers de la frégate "Forte," mais sachant par votre lettre qu'on n'a pas fait je m'empresse de vous les transmettre même en original afin de satisfaire à votre désir.

Je vous demande pardon de ne vous avoir pas répondu plus tôt, mais vous savez les occupations dont je suis actuellement chargé.

(Signé)

J. C. SINIMBU.

No. 46.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Layard.—(Received September 4.)

Sir,

Admiralty, September 3, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter, dated the 6th ultimo, from Rear-Admiral Warren, with its inclosures in original, reporting the particulars of a collision between three officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte" and a police guard stationed in the neighbourhood of Rio de Janeiro in the month of June last.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure in No. 46.

Rear-Admiral Warren to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

My Lord,

"Forte," Rio de Janeiro, August 6, 1862.

I REGRET being called on to report to their Lordships an unfortunate collision, which took place on the 18th June between three officers of my flag-ship and a police guard stationed on the Tijuca Hill near this city, and in which the police appear to have behaved in a very cowardly and brutal manner, using unnecessary violence when taking these officers in charge, and subsequently subjecting them to the indignity of marching through the public streets to gaol, after being made acquainted with their names and rank.

Immediately I received a report of the circumstance from Captain Saumarez of the "Forte," who transmitted to me the statements of the three officers, I communicated the same to Mr. Christie, Her Majesty's Minister, and urged him to lose no time in having the matter thoroughly investigated, with a view of taking the necessary steps to obtain satisfaction for the gross insult offered to British officers.

On the 2nd instant Mr. Christie informed me that he had not yet received the depositions of the witnesses who were examined before the police authorities, but merely the statement of the Chief of Police as inclosed.* He also acquainted me that he should report the case as it at present stands to Earl Russell; consequently I consider it advisable to put their Lordships in possession of all the information I have received on this question up to the present time.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHARD L. WARREN.

No. 47.

Mr. Layard to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 5, 1862.

WITH reference to your letter of the 3rd instant I am directed by Earl Russell to request that you will state to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that his Lordship has received a report from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio regarding the collision between the officers of the "Forte" and a Brazilian police-guard; but as Mr. Christie has stated that he will send further details by the next opportunity, Lord Russell will wait further information before pronouncing an opinion as to the course to be pursued in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) A. H. LAYARD.

No. 48.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received September 22.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 23, 1862.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 7th instant, on the ill-treatment of officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte," I have now the honour to inclose a translation of the evidence taken by the Chief of Police, accompanied by some marginal observations of my own; also a copy of a statement made by the three officers after reading the evidence; and a copy of a note dated the 19th instant which I have addressed to the Marquis of Abrantes in transmitting to him the statements of the officers.

A few days before I wrote this note to his Excellency I called on him by appointment to discuss the whole question with him. Besides a special appointment, made two days before, it had been some time since agreed, on his suggestion, that after I had read the evidence taken by the Chief of Police, I should see him and discuss the question with him. But his Excellency was so little prepared for a discussion when I went to him on the 17th instant, that he immediately stated that he had not read any of the documents which he had transmitted to me. I therefore told him that I thought this grave outrage had merited earlier attention; that it was, of course, useless for me to proceed if he was entirely unprepared; that it was my duty to make a full report to your Lordship by the French steamer on the 25th; that I would furnish his Excellency with copies of the officers' replies; and that I sincerely hoped that the Brazilian Government would profit

* Inclosure 10 in No 45.

by the interval which must elapse before I could receive instructions from your Lordship to offer proper satisfaction.

I have carefully discussed the whole question with Admiral Warren, and our opinions are the same.

We both think that the guard, as is too often the case in these countries, brutally attacked the Chaplain without taking time to understand him; that the three officers were afterwards treated with unnecessary and shameful violence; that after their names and professions were known they were treated with gross indignity; and that these officers are to be believed, and that the defence is a trumped-up story.

Your Lordship will observe that only one of the witnesses could by possibility know anything of what happened up to the moment when the guard turned out. So far, indisputably, there are the declarations of the three officers to be set against that of the sentry, a man of the lowest class.

The officers declare that the Ensign did not appear till about ten minutes after they were imprisoned. If he was absent from the guard-room he was neglecting his duty, and became liable to punishment; and it is not surprising that he should not admit this, or that the soldiers under him should agree with him in declaring that he turned out with the guard.

The words put into the Chaplain's mouth by the sentry and by four other witnesses who were present, namely, "*Que figura faz vossé?*" are a Portuguese slang phrase, which the Chaplain, who knows no Portuguese, had never heard of. The words he used were Spanish, "*Que quere V.?*" &c., "What do you want?"—a very natural and inoffensive reply to a loud hail from a sentry.

None of the officers speak Portuguese or attempt to speak it. When they tried to explain themselves later in Spanish, of which they have learnt something in the River Plate, it is very likely that the witnesses might take their Spanish for Portuguese.

The Austrian witness, whose statements are in flat contradiction to those of the officers, is an unknown man, of so little consideration that neither the Ensign nor any of the soldiers knew his name, though he lives in the immediate neighbourhood.

I have conversed with all the three officers on this subject, and feel satisfied of the truth of their statements.

They had started early in the morning on a long walking excursion, and it was already dark when they reached the Tijuca guard-house on their return. The sentry was probably asleep, and hearing loud voices close to the guard-house called out, and without waiting to understand a foreigner, proceeded, as is too much the custom of the low Brazilian soldiers, to administer blows and bring out his arms.

I have pointed out to the Marquis of Abrantes how the delay which took place before any inquiry was instituted gave time for the concoction of a false story in defence.

Admiral Warren agrees with me in thinking that the Ensign should be dismissed, and he also thinks that some punishment should be inflicted on the corporal, who, the officers say, distinguished himself particularly by his violence in the ill-treatment administered after the guard turned out. But the officers have not stated this in writing. I would suggest that some punishment should in any case be inflicted on the sentry with whom this disturbance began.

The Admiral agrees with me in thinking that the Brazilian Government should be required to publish a statement expressing their regret for what has happened, and animadverting on the conduct of the official who received the officers at the Rio police-station, and on the Chief of Police who in his Report to the Minister of Justice imputed intoxication to the officers without one particle of evidence.

I should observe that the officers were not in uniform, having received permission from the Captain to be in plain clothes, as they were going into the country. But I submit that, as soon as they declared that they were naval officers, inquiries should have been made, if their statements were not believed, before subjecting them to the ill-treatment which followed their imprisonment. The Midshipman, Mr. Hornby, wore a waistcoat with naval buttons.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Record of Replies to Questions put to Braz Cupertino do Amaral, Ensign of the Police Corps of this Capital.

(Translation.)

ON the 2nd day of July, 1862, in this capital, and in the police-office, came and appeared before Dr. Agostinho Luis da Gama, Chief of Police, and the undersigned Clerk of the Court, Braz Cupertino do Amaral, Ensign of the police corps of this city; and the Chief of Police then and there read to him a despatch from Admiral Warren, Commander-in-chief of the English frigate "Forte," in which he complains of his conduct towards several officers of that frigate, who were arrested by the detachment under his command, and in order that he might explain the facts which constitute the complaint; and the said Ensign deposed as follows:—

That at 7 o'clock in the evening of the 17th of last month three foreigners were coming down from Tijuca, disputing on the road with the passers-by, and with the patrol, who at that time were going their rounds, pointing at them with the sticks they carried, and using threats. That on approaching the detachment commanded by the deponent, they met a person on horseback whom they stopped, checking the bridle, and were on this occasion abused by the individual, who went on his way.

That on their arrival at the guard-house of the detachment, which is situated a little way from the road, they ascended the steps of the house, and approaching the sentinel, one of them, who I afterwards knew to be named Clemenger, said to the sentinel in Portuguese, "What are you doing there?" ("Que figura faz vossé ahi?" or "What part are you playing there?"). And on the sentinel desiring them to go away, the said Clemenger said that "Brazilian soldiers were only fit for being held by the trowsers and thrown away," and immediately raising their sticks they began to beat the sentinel, who, seeing himself thus attacked, called out the guard and fixed his bayonet, but through fear of wounding any of these strangers he defended himself with the butt-end of his musket; that when the guard and he the deponent had turned out,* they endeavoured to arrest the persons of those foreigners, who continued to resist, and it becoming necessary to employ the butt-ends of their muskets for that purpose, they did so by order of the deponent. That when arrested they were placed in the guard-house prison, where there were no other prisoners at the time, and after being shut up, they continued to talk and throw everything about that was in the room, and to make a great noise. That on the deponent going to them and requesting them not to act in such a manner, and to tell him their names, they pretended not to understand the Portuguese language, and continued to behave in the same manner; that the deponent meanwhile sent to call a German who resides near the guard-house to speak to them, who, on arrival, spoke in French to the shortest, now known as a Lieutenant, requesting him to tell their names, and on this one speaking to the tallest, who we now know is a chaplain, addressed himself to the deponent with their names written on a paper, but the said chaplain hesitated to deliver it, tore up the paper and threw it on the floor. That he does not know the name of the interpreter, and only knows that he resides on the same hill in a house next to an individual known by the name of "the Commander." That the German told the deponent that the answers given by the strangers to whom he spoke were insulting to the deponent and the detachment. That the prisoners continuing to be turbulent, and principally the chaplain, they were separated, two of them being left in the prison, and the chaplain removed to a room which served as a refectory, and thus they passed the night; and on the following morning, at about 8 o'clock, they were sent under escort of seven soldiers to the city prison, accompanied by a report to the respective Sub-Delegate, and on foot, because there were no orders to forward prisoners in any other manner. That not one of these individuals under arrest declared that he was a naval officer, nor could the deponent, from their behaviour, be convinced that they were such. That on the occasion of their attack upon the sentry, and during their subsequent conduct in prison, they showed that they were elated from excessive use of spirituous liquors; one of them arrived carrying a metal flask strung across his shoulder,† which contained that description of drink. That all the three arrived dressed in plain clothes, and without any signs of being officers, or of belonging to the navy, nor did they make any declaration to this deponent, but it is true that they asked for paper and playing cards, which on being given to them the chaplain wrote a note to the Consul, and sealed it, which was not forwarded for want of the means of

* Up to this moment, according to the Ensign's own confession, he has been relating what he did not see. But the officers say that this Ensign did not appear till about ten minutes after they had been imprisoned in the guard-house.—W. D. C.

† This metal flask was an opera-glass slung over the Chaplain's shoulder.—W. D. C.

conveyance. On this deponent being asked whether he remembered the name of the soldier who was on duty as sentry, he answered, that his name is Manoel Luis Teixeira. On his being asked how many soldiers answered to the call of the sentry in order to secure the foreigners, he replied they were about eight, and that he remembered that among the number were the soldiers Britto, Albino, Domingos, Pereira, Parente, and the Quartermaster Gonçalves.

(Signed)

ANTONIO LUIS XAVIER DE MELLO, *Clerk*.
AGOSTINHO LUIS DA GAMA.
BRAZ CUPERTINO DO AMARAL, *Ensign*.

Deposition of the Police Soldier Manoel Luis Teixeira.

On the same day hereinbefore written the soldier of the police corps, Manoel Luis Teixeira came and appeared before the Chief of Police, and by virtue of the questions put to him, he answered as follows:—

That on the 17th of last month, at about 7 o'clock in the evening, he the deponent being on duty as sentry at the door of the guard-house of the detachment of Tijuca, he saw three individuals descend the hill, who appeared to be foreigners, ill clad, who, meeting a passer by on horseback going up, seized the bridle and made the horse stop, but the horseman went shortly on his way, after abusing them on account of their behaviour. That they then proceeded to the guard-house, and went up the steps in front, and the tallest of them asked the deponent what he was doing there? To which he replied that that was a guard-house, and that if they had no business there they were to retire. To which that individual retorted, that "Brazilians soldiers are a miserable set, and were to be held by the trowsers and well kicked;" accompanying that saying by endeavouring to lay hold of his the deponent's leg, upon which the other two companions of the aggressor armed with sticks attacked the deponent, who, in order to defend himself from the former, hit him with the butt-end of his gun, and fixed on his bayonet against the other two, calling out the guard, when the Commandant and soldiers of the detachment came out to effect the imprisonment of those strangers, who did not choose to surrender. That after their imprisonment, the Commander of the detachment sent an individual who speaks French or Spanish to ask them their names, and the shortest of them wrote the names on a paper, but as he was going to deliver it to the Commander, the tallest of them took the paper from him and tore it up. That when those individuals addressed the deponent they spoke in Portuguese, and did not declare that they were officers. That when attacked he was acting as sentry inside the building, and that when secured the three strangers were placed in the guard-house prison, where they passed the night, and were on the following morning sent to the prison of this department, he the deponent forming one of the escort.

(Signed)

ANTONIO JOAQUIM XAVIER DE MELLO, *Clerk*.
AGOSTINHO LUIS DA GAMA.
MANOEL LUIS TEIXEIRA.

Deposition of the Quartermaster of the Police Corps, João Gonçalves da Silva.

And on the same day hereinbefore written, came and appeared the Quartermaster of Police Corps, João Gonçalves da Silva, who by virtue of the questions put to him by the Chief of Police replied as follows:—

That he the deponent forming a part of the detachment at Tijuca, on the 17th of last month, three strangers at about 7 o'clock at night, clad in plain clothes, approached the guard-house, and the tallest of the three, addressing the sentry, asked him what he was doing there; and upon the sentry telling him that that was a guard-house, the said individual raising the stick which he carried,* attacked the sentry, for which reason the latter repelled him with the butt-end of his musket and called out the guard, when the Ensign commanding the detachment, he the deponent, and the rest of the soldiers forming it came out,† and proceeded to arrest the aggressors, who, after resisting, were locked up in the prison of the guard-house, where they passed the night, and were on the following day removed to the prison of the police in this city, and on foot, because there was no order to conduct the prisoners in a coach, he the deponent forming part of the escort. That when those strangers were in the prison, the Commander of the detachment asked them to

* He had no stick, only an umbrella; but this witness is describing what he did not see.—W. D. C.

† This Quartermaster could know nothing of what occurred of his own knowledge up to this moment.—W. D. C.

tell their names, and the tallest of them having written them on a paper did not choose to deliver it to that officer, but tore it up and threw it away.

(Signed)

ANTONIO JOAQUIM XAVIER DE MELLO, *Clerk.*
AGOSTINHO LUIS DA GAMA.
JOAO GONCALVES DA SILVA.

Deposition of the Soldier of the Police Corps, Manoel Parente Ribeiro.

And on the same day hereinbefore written, came and appeared the soldier of the police corps, Manoel Parente Ribeiro, who by virtue of the questions put to him by the Chief of Police replied as follows :—

That he was not present at the imprisonment of the three Englishmen, because he was away patrolling at Tijuca, but that on his return to the detachment after 11 o'clock at night, he heard those individuals making a great noise in the prison : the most excited of them was the tallest and bald-headed, who used scornful expressions about the soldiers and nation. That when he went on his rounds he met with them on the road, and that the tallest of them, the same who was the most troublesome in the prison, pointed to the patrol with his stick ; but that the deponent seeing that they were tipsy, the patrol passed, leaving them behind. That on the deponent's return to the guard-house, his companions told him that those strangers were imprisoned for having addressed the sentry, and asked him what he was doing there ; and the sentry having replied that that was a guard-house and desired them to retire, one of them retorted, that "the soldiers of Brazil were a miserable set, and were to be held by their trowsers and thrown away," accompanying that language with threats.* That the sentry had defended himself with the butt-end of his musket and called out the guard, upon which the Commander of the detachment and the soldiers having come out and endeavoured to arrest the aggressors, the tallest of them struggled with the soldier Albino, wrenched the small brush from his uniform, tearing the latter, and was finally placed with the others in the prison, where they passed the night, without declaring that they were officers.* The deponent further declared that the stranger who struggled with the soldier Albino is the one whom he now recognizes as the Lieutenant, and not the tallest who is said to be the Chaplain.† That all of them were in plain clothes, without any signs whereby they might be known as officers. That on the following day they were placed in the city prison, having been escorted on foot from Tijuca.

(Signed)

ANTONIO JOAQUIM XAVIER DE MELLO, *Clerk.*
AGOSTINHO LUIS DA GAMA.
MANOEL PARENTE RIBEIRO.

In continuation, Clemenger, Chaplain ; Pringle, Lieutenant ; and Hornby, Midshipman of the English frigate "Forte," being present, the Chief of Police caused to be read to them the declarations made by the officer and soldiers, translated from the Portuguese into the English language by the sworn interpreter, João Baptista Cosmelli, and they all maintained the correctness of the remonstrance made by Admiral Warren, it being a true narration of the facts ; and in regard to the declarations read to them, that they contained inaccuracies in some parts, and in others were contrary to the truth ; that they had told the officer that they belonged to the "Forte" frigate, one of them being an officer, another being a midshipman, and another a chaplain, saying it in Spanish, which was well understood by the officer, and subsequently in French to a German who was called by that officer to serve as interpreter. That it is true they were not in uniform, but that besides the declarations they had made, the midshipman had on a waistcoat with anchor buttons. That they were passing peaceably when the sentry, who was at about six feet distant from them, called to them, and on their approaching the place where the sentry stood, they asked him what he wanted ; this being followed by a thump, without the sentry having stirred from his post, when he called out the guard, and a number of soldiers immediately came out, who beat them with their swords and arrested them without any opposition on their part ; that on the appearance of the other soldiers, the sentry came down into the road and gave a second blow with the butt-end of his gun. That even after being in prison the officer was there beaten by the soldiers, and that the one who most distinguished himself in that aggression wore two stripes on the arm of his uniform, and that they could single him out again on seeing him. That when they were ordered to come to the city they proposed being sent in the

* All this is confessedly hearsay evidence.—W. D. C.

† How could he know which struggled with Albino, as he was not present ?—W. D. C.

“machambomba” (omnibus), they paying the expense, but that they met with a refusal; that this is the truth: that they were not intoxicated, because they had only drunk at dinner two bottles of Bordeaux wine; that they brought no flask of spirits with them, but only a telescope which was taken for a flask. That the declarations which relate to the Chaplain, and which assert that he carried a stick, are inaccurate, because he only carried an umbrella, and that it was the other two who carried sticks; that the Lieutenant besides his walking-stick carried another stick which he had bought on the road; that the Lieutenant was behind the others when his companions reached the sentry, and that on his approaching he was also assaulted. And when these replies were read to them by the interpreter, finding them correct, they affixed their signatures hereunto along with me the Clerk, the Chief of Police, and the interpreter.

(Signed)

ANTONIO JOAQUIM XAVIER DE MELLO, *Clerk.*

AGOSTINHO LUIS DA GAMA.

GEORGE G. W. CLEMENGER, *Chaplain of Her Majesty's ship "Forte."*

GEOFFREY HORNBY, *Midshipman, of Her Majesty's ship "Forte."*

JOHN ELIOT PRINGLE, *Acting Lieutenant, of Her Majesty's ship "Forte."*

JOAO BAPTISTA COSMELLI, *Interpreter.*

Deposition of Robert Bennett.

On the 4th day of July, 1862, came and appeared before the Chief of Police in his office in this city, Robert Bennett, a native of England residing at Tijuca, who, by virtue of the questions put to him by the Chief of Police, replied as follows:—That one day of the last month, perhaps a fortnight ago, he the deponent being at home, saw three individuals passing in front of his house, who appeared to be Englishmen, singing merrily, and returning from his hotel where they had dined; and that on the following morning, learning that they had been imprisoned on the preceding evening for having quarrelled with the guard at Tijuca, he asked the manager of his hotel what liquors they had been served with, when he was told that the three had had two bottles of Bordeaux wine and half a bottle of cognac: he, the deponent, not knowing whether the said three Englishmen had taken any other liquor in any of the other inns between his hotel and the guard-house.*

(Signed)

ANTONIO JOAQUIM XAVIER DE MELLO, *Clerk.*

AGOSTINHO LUIS DA GAMA.

ROBERT BENNETT.

Deposition of Rodolph Müller.

And at the same place, and on the same day last before-written, came and appeared Rodolph Müller, a native of Austria residing at Andarahy pequeno (Tijuca), and by virtue of the questions put to him he deposed as follows:—That on the night of the 17th of June last he, the deponent being at home, was called by the Ensign commanding the detachment at Tijuca to go and speak with him; and on his reaching the guard-house, that officer told him that three Englishmen, then present, had been made prisoners for having wanted to beat the sentinel, and as they appeared to be ignorant of the Portuguese language he requested the deponent to act as interpreter, and to tell them the reason of their imprisonment by competent authority, and to demand their names. That the deponent complying therewith, and having explained to them his position, they answered him crossly without declaring their ranks as officers of the English navy; that they afterwards called for beds to sleep on, and being told by the commanding officer, through the deponent, that there were none, but that he would voluntarily cede his own to them, they refused to accept it because it could not accommodate all the three. That he observed the three Englishmen not to be in their perfect senses, it appearing to him that they had drunk too much, the tallest of them being the most disorderly and unreasonable.

(Signed)

ANTONIO JOAQUIM XAVIER DE MELLO, *Clerk.*

AGOSTINHO LUIS DA GAMA.

RODODPH MULLER.

* How could he know what they did or did not take, elsewhere? This is an impertinent insinuation.—W. D. C.

Deposition of Domingos José da Silveira, Corporal of the Police Corps.

On the same 4th of July, 1862, in the police office of this city, came and appeared before the respective Chief of Police, Domingos José da Silveira, a corporal in the police corps, and by virtue of the questions put to him, he replied as follows :—That on the 17th of June last, at half-past 7 at night, this deponent being inside the guard-house at Tijuca, heard the sentry calling out the guard, and that on coming out with the other soldiers, he saw three strangers wrestling with the sentry, trying to throw him over the parapet on which he stood ; that he, the deponent, and the soldiers endeavoured by fair means to separate the strangers without any employment of force, but that their efforts proving useless, as the strangers showed themselves desperate, violently repelling the soldiers and struggling with them, so much so that one of them, not the tallest, seized the deponent and threw him down, from which fall he was wounded in the middle finger of his right hand, the scar of which still exists. That finally the detachment having succeeded in arresting those three foreigners, they were placed in a room which serves as a refectory. That after the imprisonment of the strangers, they were treated with the greatest civility by the officer in command, who gave them paper, and even playing cards, they having asked for both. That the said officer sent to call a foreigner who resides in that neighbourhood, and who speaks Portuguese, to find out from the prisoners who and what they are, which they did not choose to tell. That the said strangers were in a disordered state of mind, and that the tallest of them carried a flask slung across his shoulder. That soon after this affray it became known that the said strangers had come from the Hill of Tijuca, wrangling with the passers by, first with a woman, then with an equestrian, seizing the reins of his horse,* and that on approaching the sentry, who was standing on a parapet, they asked him in very intelligible Portuguese, what he was doing there ; and upon the sentry telling them that that was a military post commanded by an officer, they contended with him for a few moments, attempting to lay hold of his legs and to throw him over the parapet, when the sentry, in order to free himself from that aggression, shoved one of them off with the butt end of his gun, and backing himself against the house, called out the guard. That while the prisoners were in the guard-house not one of them ever declared that they were officers in the English navy.

(Signed) ANTONIO JOAQUIM XAVIER DE MELLO, *Clerk.*
AGOSTINHO LUIS DA GAMA.
DOMINGOS JOSE DA SILVEIRA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 48.

Messrs. Clemenger, Pringle, and Hornby to Rear-Admiral Warren.

Sir, “ Forte,” Rio de Janeiro, August 16, 1862.

IN compliance with your order, we the Undersigned have the honour to submit to you some observations on the accompanying depositions :—

B.C. do Amaral, Ensign, and Officer of Guard.—1. The depositions of the officer of the guard relative to our proceedings previous to being put in the guard-house prison, we entirely repudiate, as he did not make his appearance for ten minutes after that time, and his evidence is grounded upon hearsay, and we therefore do not acknowledge it in any way up to this time.

2. That so far from throwing everything about in the guard-house prison, it was an impossibility to do so, as there were no moveable articles there, nor did we create a disturbance there.

3. That the officer of the guard requested our names, and that we gave them in full with rank and ship on two separate occasions, written on a piece of paper which he provided for that purpose, and one of which papers he himself threw on the floor in a contemptuous manner after reading it. That an Austrian appeared and acted as interpreter, and that Lieutenant Pringle states that he made the Ensign fully aware of our names, rank, and ship, through the interpreter, as well as of the treatment we had received during his absence from the guard.

4. That we all removed to the room called the refectory during the evening, where we gave our names as above stated, and conversed with the Ensign personally, as well as through the Austrian. That we were not separated on account of making a disturbance,

* Why were not this woman and the equestrian produced? Not one witness has said that he saw these scenes.—W. D. C.

nor was Mr. Clemenger removed to another room, inasmuch as Messrs. Clemenger and Hornby slept in the refectory, and Lieutenant Pringle voluntarily in the prison, he preferring it as sleeping quarters; this being the way we passed the night.

5. That none of us carried a metal flask slung across the shoulder, but that Mr. Clemenger had one which contained no spirituous liquor, and had an opera glass slung across his shoulder.

6. That Mr. Clemenger also wrote to Captain Saumarez.

M. L. Teixeira, Sentry.—1. That we stopped no horse in the vicinity of the guard-house by checking the bridle, nor do we recollect seeing one there.

2. That we did not ascend the steps of the guard-house or make any attack on the sentry, neither did we use any disparaging reflections on the Brazilian soldiery, as we cannot speak the Portuguese language.

3. That on passing close to the guard-house the sentry advanced and challenged Mr. Clemenger, who stopped and replied in Spanish, “Que quere V.?” when the sentry immediately struck him on the breast with the butt of his rifle. That no attempt was made by Mr. Clemenger to seize the sentry’s leg. That the statement of our attacking the sentry with sticks is entirely false, as well as that the officer of the guard turned out with the guard who attacked us.

4. That Messrs. Clemenger and Hornby did not offer the slightest resistance to the guard, neither did Lieutenant Pringle until he had been very roughly handled, although we were all struck repeatedly with the backs of drawn swords and bayonets. The remainder of this witness’ evidence has been confuted.

J. C. da Silva, Quartermaster.—1. That the tallest, who addressed the sentry, did not raise his stick, as he merely carried a light umbrella, nor did he in any way attack or molest the sentry.

2. That the officer commanding the detachment did not turn out with the aggressing guard. No new matter being opened by this witness’ evidence, we consider it unnecessary to make any further reply.

M. P. Ribeiro, Private.—1. That we could not have made a noise in the prison after 11 o’clock, as Lieutenant Pringle was the only person in the prison at that hour, he being then asleep.

2. That we deny that Mr. Clemenger pointed at the patrol with his stick, as he had none.

R. Müller.—1. Lieutenant Pringle states that he spoke German to this witness, and through him gave verbally to the officer of the guard our ranks and ship, and also answered questions which were put to him through witness by the Ensign; and Lieutenant Pringle feels quite satisfied that the Ensign perfectly understood him by the suitable replies that he received.

3. We should desire an opportunity of confronting this witness.

D. J. da Silveira, Corporal.—1. We beg leave to state that at half-past 7 o’clock on the afternoon of June 17, 1862, we had been prisoners for three-quarters of an hour, and consequently could not have been descending the hill at that time.

2. We have totally denied having ascended the steps of the guard-house, nor did we wrestle with the sentinel, or try to throw him over the parapet, such an operation being impossible from the road on which we were passing.

3. We have before stated that Messrs. Clemenger and Hornby made no resistance to the guard, who grossly maltreated them, striking them repeatedly with the backs of drawn swords and bayonets after they were prisoners.

4. We have already denied molesting passengers. The rest of this witness’ evidence has already been answered.

Statement of Proceedings.

Starting from Botafogo at 8 A.M. on June 17, on foot, we arrived by the sea-road at Bennett’s lower hotel at about 3 o’clock in the afternoon, where we each drank one glass of brandy and seltzer-water, and ordered dinner, whilst we strolled about the grounds. About 5 o’clock we dined, at which we drank two bottles of Bordeaux between the three. This together with the above was all the liquor we partook of. At 6 o’clock we started to catch the last “machambomba,” which leaves at 7 o’clock for the city. On our route we had no refreshments of any kind. We met many passengers, but so far from molesting them, we gave several blacks coppers. We also met the patrol, but took no notice of them.

On arriving at the Tijuca guard-house, Messrs. Clemenger and Hornby, being some yards in advance of Lieutenant Pringle, the former walking on the extreme left of the road, in passing very near the guard-house, was accosted by a sentry who moved towards

him. Mr. Clemenger stopped and asked him what he wanted in Spanish ("Que quiere V.?"). The words were scarcely uttered when he received a blow on the chest from the sentinel's musket, who at the same time called for the guard, which immediately turned out with drawn swords and bayonets, and came down on the road and attacked Messrs. Clemenger and Hornby, who offered not the slightest resistance. Lieutenant Pringle coming up at this time was received in the same cowardly manner, and, after remonstrating, endeavoured to free himself from the cowardly assault and renew his journey, but was overpowered; during which time Mr. Clemenger received a second blow on his chest, and we were all three brutally struck and maltreated, even after Lieutenant Pringle had been secured: he, while in a helpless position, received a vicious thrust in the left groin from the butt of the sentinel's musket. We were then driven into the guard-house prison, most unnecessary force being used, and then locked up. We immediately, through the bars, requested the guard to send for the officer, who had not, up to this time, made his appearance. He arrived in ten minutes or a quarter of an hour accompanied by a soldier, who evidently had been sent for him, but he would not listen to us until he had asked questions of most of the men composing the guard. We were then called out of the prison one by one to explain matters to the Ensign, who seemed very much excited, and were removed to a room called the refectory, where Mr. Clemenger, in compliance with the Ensign's request, wrote our names and ranks on a piece of paper provided for that purpose, and we gave him most fully to understand that we were British naval officers. Mr. Clemenger gave him our names and rank again later in the evening. An Austrian was sent for to act as interpreter, and Lieutenant Pringle states that he spoke to this man in German, and, through him, fully explained our ranks, and that we were British naval officers. Lieutenant Pringle feels perfectly satisfied that he was understood on this point, by the suitable answers that he received; the attention of the Ensign being at the same time called to the naval buttons which Mr. Hornby wore in his waistcoat. The officer of the guard provided us with writing materials, with which Mr. Clemenger wrote one letter to Captain Saumarez, and one to the British Consul, which letters the Ensign promised should be forwarded early the following morning, which promise was never fulfilled; we have since had a paltry excuse offered that he had no means to forward the latter, but the one to Captain Saumarez, the address of which might alone have indicated our profession, he affects to ignore.

In the course of the Evening we gave the ensign to understand that we should, as soon as possible, call him to account for his conduct towards us; he then called our attention to the fact that he had removed us from the prison to the refectory directly he understood we were British naval officers.

We passed the night as follows:—Lieutenant Pringle removing to the prison, which he preferred as sleeping quarters, Messrs. Clemenger and Hornby occupying the refectory.

On the following morning, June 18th, we were told to prepare to march into Rio under an escort, and on objecting to this ignominy, requested a passage in the "machambomba," or a conveyance, the expenses of which we offered to defray. This was refused, the reason given by the Ensign through the Austrian, who acted as interpreter, that although we were officers, yet we were ordinary prisoners.

At 9 o'clock we started on foot under an escort of seven, and arrived at the city police-court at 11 o'clock. We here again wrote our names, rank, and ship, and were sent into a filthy den, where were collected men and boys of the dregs of society. At the threshold of this detention-room, I again asked the official, whether he was fully aware that we were English officers; he said that he was, and we were locked up. Managing to communicate with the British Consul, he came and interceded for us, and after we had been two hours, we were removed to a less dirty one, where four or five prisoners were. After a lapse of another hour and a half we were removed to the police barracks, where we were very civilly treated.

At 11:30 A.M. June 19, we were released by written order of the Chief of Police, but no reason was assigned.

In the original charges preferred against us by the officer of the guard, of which we received a copy, no allusion was made to our insobriety, which fabrication appears to have been used to give colour to their statements, which they were obliged to make in order to screen their dastardly proceedings.

In conclusion, we beg leave to state that we were most decidedly sober.

(Signed)

G. G. W. CLEMENGER, *Chaplain.*

J. ELIOT PRINGLE, *Acting Lieutenant.*

GEOFFREY HORNBY, *Midshipman.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 48.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, August 19, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of statements made by the three officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte," who were imprisoned by the guard of Tijuca on the 17th of June, after they had read the report of the Chief of Police to M. Sinimbú, and the depositions taken in the inquiries of 2nd and 4th of July.

These depositions, of which I asked your Excellency for a copy immediately after receiving your note of 17th July, I received from M. Sinimbú in original in the evening of 2nd of August, in consequence of a note which I had addressed to him on the same day, begging him to hurry the sending of the copies promised by your Excellency; and it then appeared that the making of the promised copies had not been begun, and that M. Sinimbú was under the impression that they had been long before sent to me.

Your Excellency will perceive from the inclosed document that the three officers totally and indignantly deny the statements of the Brazilian Ensign and his witnesses. They deny that they were intoxicated; they deny the allegation of disorderly conduct on the road; they declare that the guard began the assault; they declare that they were treated with brutal violence; and they declare that they gave their names, and proclaimed their profession and ranks, and that these were immediately and perfectly known to the Ensign of the guard, and to the officer who received them at the Rio police-station. Various statements of the officers on minor points merit your Excellency's attention.

It will not escape your Excellency's penetration that of four witnesses who relate in detail the beginning of the fray, imputing misconduct to the English officers, only one could speak of his own knowledge, and the rest could know only what they heard from that one whose evidence they all faithfully reproduced.

The British officers declare that the Ensign did not make his appearance until ten minutes after they were imprisoned in the guard-house, and that then he was fetched. He himself states that he turned out with the guard. According to his own statement, his evidence is worthless up to the moment of his turning out with the guard; having by his own confession declared as to what he did not see before that moment, he is as likely to declare to what he did not see afterwards. If he was absent from the guard-house when the disturbance began, he would not be likely to own to this breach of duty.

The three officers wish to be confronted with the German Müller, whose statements they deny.

I regret that no attention was paid to my first urgent request that the inquiry should be held immediately. It is clear that the interval from the 23rd June, when I saw your Excellency's Secretary, to the 2nd July, added to the six days already elapsed since the event, gave superabundant time for concoction of a false story in defence of a proceeding which had caused general disgust and indignation.

I regret to see that the Chief of Police in his report to M. Sinimbú of 5th July, explains his liberation of the officers on the 19th June without inquiry or apology, by imputing inebriety, when the report of the Ensign of the Tijuca guard to the Sub-Delegate of Engenho Velho, which at that time was all his information, makes no such charge.

I lately expressed to your Excellency, in conversation, my regret that the Imperial Government had not hitherto proceeded in this matter with more promptitude and zeal. I will not yet give up the hope that, better appreciating the character of this lamentable event, the Government of the Emperor will anticipate any demand from Her Majesty's Government, to whom I have made a full report, by a spontaneous offer of suitable satisfaction for a shameful outrage, aggravated by the attempt to impute intoxication to the aggrieved officers.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 49.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received September 22.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 23, 1862.

I RECEIVED by the French packet, on the 17th instant, your Lordship's two despatches of the 3rd and 23rd July, on the affair of the shipwreck of the "Prince of Wales," when I was pursuing a correspondence on the subject with the Marquis of

Abrantes, and I have availed myself of some of your Lordship's remarks in the last note of the correspondence of which I now inclose copies.

In my despatch of the 21st July I sent your Lordship a copy of a note in which, in obedience to your Lordship's instructions, I insisted on a thorough inquiry to be held in the presence of a British officer. The Marquis of Abrantes, understanding these words to mean a British naval officer, in his note of the 6th August refuses such an inquiry. It may be inferred that he would also have refused a new inquiry in the presence of a British civilian.

In my second note, inclosed, that of the 16th instant, the Marquis of Abrantes, in answer to my expressions of regret and surprise that he had given me no additional information as to proceedings at Rio Grande, informs me of the dismissal of the Sub-Delegate of Tahim and the Inspector of the district, two functionaries of whom Mr. Vereker has always complained, and whose conduct four months ago Senhor Taques declared praiseworthy, as well as the arrest and prosecution of eleven more individuals on charges of plundering the wreck, and of steps taken to apprehend some accused persons who have fled to Monte Video.

In replying to this second note of his Excellency, I have freely commented on some of its inconsistencies, and, contrasting these newly announced measures with the former declarations of Senhor Taques, and showing how they condemn past inaction, I have pointed out what more remains to be done. I have reminded his Excellency of the serious imputations against the Justice of the Peace, Senhor Soares; I have pointed out that no reply has been made beyond bare assertions to the allegations of suspicion of murder, the probability of which is heightened by the now admitted culpable neglect of the two chief local functionaries; and I have shown how the duty of compensation follows from the admission of culpable neglect of officials.

Referring your Lordship to the correspondence itself, I hope that my part of it will obtain your approval.

After the long delay which has occurred, and with the admission of culpable neglect of officials now made, your Lordship may not think it too soon to consider what amount of indemnity may fairly be claimed from the Brazilian Government. All that is known as to the plunder, and all the circumstances suggesting suspicion of murder, are set forth in Mr. Vereker's despatches, and the value of the cargo and stores was stated by the owner of the vessel, Mr. Stephens, in his letter to your Lordship of September 20, 1861. I think, with deference to your Lordship, that it would be desirable to bring this question as soon as possible to a definite issue.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 49.

The Marquis of Abrantes to Mr. Christie.

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rio de Janeiro,
August 6, 1862.*

(Translation.)

I HAVE received the note which, under the date of the 16th instant, Mr. William Dougal Christie, &c., &c., did me the honour to address to me relative to the occurrences which arose out of the shipwreck of the English barque "Prince of Wales."

The note in question comprises two points, to which I shall duly reply.

The first relates to the circumstance of the return of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul and Captain Saumarez from Porto Alegre to Rio Grande, where the inquiry which was ordered to be held was to have taken place, and of their having waited from the 8th to the 18th of April, in the latter city, without receiving any communication from the President or Chief of Police on the subject; the result of which was the departure of Captain Saumarez for Monte Video, with the feeling that he had not been treated by those authorities with due consideration and courtesy.

The second concerns the order lately received by Mr. Christie from his Government, to declare to that of His Majesty the Emperor that this question, so full of disagreeable incidents, cannot be satisfactorily treated, without the institution of a new and complete inquiry, in the presence of a British naval officer.

With reference to the first point, Mr. Christie will permit me to make a brief explanation of facts, as they have occurred, and endeavour to show that the feeling of Captain Saumarez, as to the want of consideration and courtesy, with which he thought himself treated by the Brazilian authorities, is without just cause.

According to the official communications addressed to the Imperial Government, whose authenticity cannot be doubted, the English gun-boat "Sheldrake" arrived at Porto Alegre on the 6th of April, conveying Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, and Captain Saumarez, commanding a frigate which remained at anchor outside the Bar of Rio Grande.

In an interview or conference which they immediately had with the President of the Province, the Consul declared to the President that Captain Saumarez had come to demand fresh inquiries respecting the suspicions of robberies and murders committed on the occasion of the shipwreck of the barque "Prince of Wales," and that he was ready to attend and assist the Government of the country in this matter.

To such a proposal or demand, the President gave the only possible reply, that is, that he could not recognize in Captain Saumarez any official character authorizing him to take part in the proceedings of the provincial authorities.

The Consul having on the following day renewed the same pretension, the President did not hesitate to tell him further, that hardly had he, the Consul, as natural protector of his countrymen, a right to attend the inquiry which was to be held.

On that day the Consul rejected the President's proposal, but on the following he said that he was resolved to take part in the inquiry, provided Captain Saumarez were permitted to attend "as a private person."

The President assented to this request, and, in this sense, sent the necessary orders to the Chief of Police of the Province, when the Consul and Captain Saumarez returned to Rio Grande.

The President assented to the request; he did not, however, fix the day on which the inquiry was to commence, not only because this depended on the Chief of Police, who certainly was the most proper person for judging of the best opportunity for executing the orders received from the first authority in the province, but because the verification of facts, such as those in question, which had occurred in solitary and distant parts, is attended by embarrassments and difficulties which cannot be overcome so quickly as is desired.

Those embarrassments and difficulties were, I can assure Mr. Christie, increased by the presence of the foreign force in the port, a force which, the public voice said, had come to support the claims of the British Consul, and which, arousing the susceptibilities of the population, who regarded it as offensive to the national independence and dignity, would render unavailing, if not impossible, the efforts of the authorities, because no one would be ready to give such information as he might possess, it being more probable that, from pique, the flight of those compromised would be facilitated.

All this being considered, and with a view to arrive, without alarm or conflicts, always to be deplored, at the knowledge of the truth of the alleged acts, and of their authors, the Chief of Police thought it better to wait for the departure of Her Britannic Majesty's vessels from the port. And in fact, as soon as that departure took place, the Delegate of Police of Rio Grande, in an official letter of the 21st of April, addressed the Consul, inviting him to attend, in his company, the inquiry which was to be instituted on the 24th, on the coast of Albardao.

The departure of Captain Saumarez, if he really was desirous to be present at the investigations which were to take place, was not a necessary consequence of the withdrawal of Her Britannic Majesty's ships, which, again, was not at the request of the Brazilian authorities.

And as the said Captain accepted the condition of being admitted to attend the proceedings only as a private person, it is clear that the Brazilian authority had only to deal officially with the Consul; for which purpose alone he had informed the latter that the inquiry would commence on the 24th.

Now, if the Consul himself, in an official letter of the 22nd, replied to the Delegate that he could not at that moment accompany him, "but that, in case his presence should be judged essential for the successful result of the inquiries, he was to let him know," it appears also clear that the absence of Captain Saumarez could cause no surprise to the Brazilian authorities, as the Captain, be it remembered, was only, in conformity with the previous agreement, to be present as a private individual.

After this explanation, I trust that Mr. Christie will believe that there was not the slightest want of attention or courtesy on the part of the Brazilian authorities towards Captain Saumarez or the Consul, and especially considering the answer of the latter, to which I have alluded.

In proceeding to treat of the second point of Mr. Christie's note—that of a new inquiry, in the presence of an English naval officer, in order to justify the Imperial Government's refusal of this pretension of that of Her Britannic Majesty it would be

sufficient for me to observe to Mr. Christie, that to do otherwise would be to acknowledge the impotency or unfitness of the Justices of the country, and the incapacity of the Government itself, amounting, at the same time, to the sufferance, on its part, of the most flagrant disrespect of the national sovereignty and dignity.

The Imperial Government, as soon as it was informed of the occurrences arising from the shipwreck of the "Prince of Wales," despatched (as Mr. Christie has been informed by this Ministerial Department) the most positive and peremptory orders to the President of the province of São Pedro do Sul, that without loss of time, and without shrinking from the employment of all possible means and resources, he was to proceed to take all necessary measures in order to discover the truth of the facts complained of, and to cause the punishment of the perpetrators.

The measures ordered by the Imperial Government have been taken; and if, as Mr. Christie has been already informed by this Ministry, from causes peculiar to the locality where the shipwreck occurred, and from other circumstances which may be said to be inseparable from such events, those measures have not produced the desired results, it is not less certain that the presence of a British naval officer could not exercise any beneficial influence.

The result of the proceedings instituted was the conviction of three criminals of robbery, one of whom is in prison, and the two others contrived to escape across the neighbouring frontier.

In a despatch addressed on the 1st instant to the President of the Province, the Imperial Government once more enjoins all possible activity in the trial of the prisoner, for the capture of those who have fled, and in continuing searches and inquiries for the discovery of other criminals.

If the examinations now proceeding shall be insufficient,—if afterwards any suspicion still remains, the Imperial Government assures Mr. Christie that it will not hesitate in ordering a repetition of examinations and inquiries as often as may be necessary, in order that no trace or sign of the crime may remain without the most complete elucidation and examination.

The Imperial Government acknowledges the just foundation of the anxiety and vigilance of Her Britannic Majesty's Minister concerning this subject; but Mr. Christie cannot but admit that no one has a greater interest than the Imperial Government, to whom is confided the honourable task of executing the laws of the country, and of directing it in the path of progress and civilization, in taking cognizance of crimes committed within the territory of the empire, and in the punishment of the guilty. And again, Mr. Christie must admit that the Imperial Government would betray their mission, and be wanting in their duty to themselves, if they were to permit the interference of a foreign authority in the administration of the justice of the country.

In thus replying to Mr. Christie's note, I avail, &c.

(Signed) THE MARQUIS OF ABRANTES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 49.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, August 14, 1862.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your note of the 6th instant, on the subject of the shipwreck of the "Prince of Wales," being an answer to mine of the 16th ultimo.

I will forward a copy of this note to Her Majesty's Government, whom I feel sure it will greatly disappoint, more especially as no mention is made in it of fresh results of the inquiry instituted by the Chief of Police in April and May, after the second demand of Her Majesty's Government conveyed in my note to Senhor Taques, of March 17, and after the visit of Captain Saumarez to Rio Grande do Sul.

That one person had been imprisoned and criminally proceeded against for plunder plunder of this wreck, others having escaped by flight, Her Majesty's Government have already known from the note addressed to me by Senhor Taques, four months ago, on the 19th of April.

After the investigation made by the Chief of Police in April and May, Her Majesty's Consul learnt with satisfaction, on what seemed to be good authority, that evidence had been obtained against several other individuals who were to be prosecuted; that the Sub-Delegate of Tahim, D. F. Gonçalves, had been dismissed for his culpable negligence in connection with the shipwreck, and that F. J. da Silveira, the Inspector of

the district, whose conduct appears to have been even more culpable than the others, had been also removed and would be prosecuted. The removal of the Sub-Delegate of Tahim was positively mentioned in the newspapers. Your Excellency's note gives me no information whatever on these matters; and if the two functionaries referred to, or either of them, have been dismissed, your Excellency does not claim for the Brazilian Government the credit of this proof of their desire to do what is right on this painful question.

I regret that your Excellency sees no discourtesy to Captain Saumarez, in keeping him waiting eight or ten days at Rio Grande, without the slightest information as to the time of an inquiry, which the President of Porto Alegre had promised should be held immediately, at which it had been agreed that he should attend unofficially, to be present at which had been the special object of his coming away from Monte Video and from his ordinary duties near the Admiral, and which it now appears was being designedly postponed by the Chief of Police, without one word said on the matter to Her Majesty's Consul or to Captain Saumarez, until the departure of the two English men-of-war. One of them, the "Oberon," had brought Captain Saumarez from Monte Video, to outside the bar of Rio Grande, being a vessel of size suitable to his naval rank. But as the "Oberon" was of too great draught to cross the bar, the gun-boat "Sheldrake" had accompanied her, in order to take Captain Saumarez into port, and afterwards to Porto Alegre. Your Excellency must strangely misconceive what is due to an officer of the rank of Captain Saumarez if you think that it could ever have entered his head without suggestion (and you say that no such suggestion was made) to return to Monte Video otherwise than in a man-of-war. The Chief of Police, therefore, was silently waiting, according to your Excellency's account, to hold an inquiry, at which the unofficial presence of Captain Saumarez was expected, for a contingency incompatible with his presence.

Permit me further to express my regret at learning, on the high authority of your Excellency, that a Brazilian population was likely to forget patriotism and humanity, and to obstruct justice, in a question involving many British lives, much British property, and the honour of their province and country, because of the presence of a British naval officer in a gun-boat, carrying one gun, in the port of Rio Grande.

Your Excellency mentions that I have already been informed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs that certain peremptory and precise instructions had been sent to the President of the Province, as soon as the Imperial Government were informed of this shipwreck and its lamentable circumstances. I have to state that in the note of Senhor Taques, of April 19, the only previous note received by this Legation from your Excellency's office on this subject, it is only said that these instructions were given after the receipt of Mr. Baillie's note of October 27. But the wreck had occurred nearly five months before, in the beginning of June.

And this leads me to mention that it has been stated by Senhor Taques, in his Relatorio of May 13, and in a speech made by him in the Chamber of Deputies on the 7th of July, that such instructions were sent to the President of the Province immediately after receipt of the news of the wreck. No correspondence on this subject having been published with the Relatorio, it would be gratifying to Her Majesty's Government to be assured by your Excellency that Senhor Taques did not do himself or the Brazilian Government full justice in his note to me of April 19.

I will call your Excellency's attention to a further statement in the speech of Senhor Taques of July 7. He says that, not considering the information sent him by the President of the Province satisfactory, viz., the information sent after the inquiries made in consequence of the demand of Mr. Baillie of October 27, he ordered fresh investigations to be made by the Chief of Police in person; that when these orders reached Porto Alegre, the Chief of Police was absent near the frontier, and that it was necessary to wait for his return; and that in the meantime, a note was received from the British Legation, stating that Her Majesty's Government was not satisfied, and mentioning that a naval officer would be sent to Rio Grande. This was my note of March 17. I think that there must be some confusion in this statement, and that the instructions said by Senhor Taques to have been previously sent, because he was not himself satisfied with the information received from the President of the Province, must be the instructions which were sent after the receipt of my note of March 17. The correspondence which would have cleared up the matter not having been published, I should feel obliged if your Excellency would inform me, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, whether there is any mistake in this part of the speech of Senhor Taques.

It is my intention to forward by the next French steamer to Her Majesty's Govern-

ment your Excellency's note of the 6th instant, and to send with it a full report of all that is known to me in connection with this lamentable event now almost of old date, for it occurred fourteen months ago; and if your Excellency should desire to give any explanations on any of the points I have now mentioned, you will perhaps find it possible to favour me with them before the departure of the French steamer on the 25th.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 49.

The Marquis of Abrantes to Mr. Christie.

*Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Rio de Janeiro,
August 16, 1862.*

(Translation.)

I HASTEN to acknowledge the receipt of the note of the 14th instant sent me by Mr. W. D. Christie, &c., on the subject of the wreck of the English barque "Prince of Wales," on the coast of Albardao in the Province of Rio Grande do Sul.

To meet the urgent wishes of Mr. Christie to be accurately informed on certain points in connexion with this deplorable event, in order to be able to forward these explanations to his Government by the steamer of the 25th, I will recapitulate the propositions of Mr. Christie's note, with suitable explanations and detailed answers.

Mr. Christie begins by stating that the contents of my note of the 6th will not satisfy his Government, chiefly as there does not appear from it to be any new result of the inquest held by the Chief of Police of the province of São Pedro in April and May of the present year; the fact being that the information that three individuals had been criminally proceeded against for theft, of whom one was taken into custody, and the other had escaped, had been before communicated to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation by my note of April 9.

In pointing out to Mr. Christie that when I wrote my last note to him I could not possibly tell him any more than what was officially known to the Imperial Government, and when I add that the repetition of the information alluded to, of the proceedings against the three aforesaid individuals, arose from the recapitulation of the information contained in the said note, I think I have answered the first proposition.

Mr. Christie observes that in my last note he was not informed of the dismissal of the Sub-Delegate D. F. Gonçalves, and of the Inspector F. J. d'Oliveira, for culpable neglect of duty, nor of the proofs collected against various other persons implicated in the crime of theft, and that the Imperial Government might have availed themselves of the opportunity to claim from that of Her Britannic Majesty the credit which would be due to this proof of their desire to do justice in this deplorable matter.

On this head I will say frankly to Mr. Christie that the Imperial Government, conscious of its own right, and more zealous in the fulfilment of its own important obligations and the requirements of justice than in seeking after the good opinion of any (other) Government, although much respecting it and wishing to deserve it, preferred to employ suitable means to arrive at a knowledge of the whole truth of the facts, reserving to itself the right of communicating at once the final result to Her Majesty's Government.

It was for this reason that I omitted to embody in my last note, either the circumstance of the dismissal of the Sub-Delegate and the Inspector, or that of the proofs collected against various individuals implicated in the crime of theft, as I thought that the assurances were sufficient which I gave to Mr. Christie, that the Imperial Government was deeply interested in bringing to light all the truth of the affair, and consequently disposed to try all possible means in order that any suspicion or trace of crime should have full compensation and examination.

Mr. Christie next observes that he is sorry that I do not think, with him, that there was discourtesy and want of consideration on the part of the President and Chief of Police of the Province in their treatment of Captain Saumarez, in making him wait eight or ten days in the city of Rio Grande, whereas, according to the promise of the President, the inquest should have commenced immediately; and besides that, in the Chief of Police purposely delaying the said inquest, without the least warning to the Captain, until the two English ships of war should be gone; the commencement of the inquest in which the captain was to assist in an unofficial capacity thus being made dependent on a contingency incompatible with his presence.

As to this third paragraph of Mr. Christie's note, I must refer to my last note of the 6th instant, and repeat what I then said, as I think that the considerations now

urged by Mr. Christie, beside the deference which they merit, cannot alter the truth of facts which have taken place.

The day for the commencement of the inquest was not definitively fixed, not only because no such fixture appears in the official documents now before the Imperial Government, in which all the incidents of the visit of Captain Saumarez to the capital of the province are minutely and faithfully narrated; but also because this postponement may have a natural and easy explanation in the serious obstacles against which the Brazilian authorities had to struggle, both on account of the population of Albardao being very much scattered, and the state of mistrust and cautiousness which probably prevails amongst the inhabitants of the district, among whom there may be guilty ones, on account of the proceedings which the authorities were going to hold; above all, if the greatest discretion and reserve had not been practised, as much in overcoming the great distances which had to be traversed, and the facilities for escape of the criminals by the neighbouring frontier; as by duly considering the excitement produced in the public mind by the presence of the English ships of war, which might have done more than all towards delaying or neutralizing the exertions of the authorities.

Thus, then, as to this part of Mr. Christie's note, I must, although very disagreeable to me to be of a different opinion to him, insist on the explanations given in my note of the 6th instant, adding that, although not understanding the absolute incompatibility of the presence of Captain Saumarez with the withdrawal of the ships of Her Majesty, I especially consider the attention paid by causing Captain Saumarez to be present in a strictly private character at the inquest which was to take place, and I regret this occurrence, seeing what importance Mr. Christie attaches to it.

I can, however, assure Mr. Christie that the absence of that officer, if not advantageous, at least did not in any way prejudice the course of justice, nor the zeal and care of the authorities.

The fourth paragraph of Mr. Christie's note is directed to showing the regret that he experienced in learning that a Brazilian population could so far forget its sentiments of patriotism and humanity, as well as respect for the honour of the province and their country, as to place obstacles in the way of the course of justice in a question involving many lives, and property of British subjects, and this from the presence of an officer of the English navy, and a gun-boat of one gun!

If I feel regret at having thus involuntarily caused sorrow to Mr. Christie, nevertheless I cannot help expressing to him the surprise that I felt at seeing that he did not understand that the slightest sign from a powerful nation is enough to ensure the respect it merits, and to awaken, in certain cases, the just sympathy of other nations.

I beg leave, on this point, to differ with Mr. Christie, it being my inward conviction that, in most cases, the patriotism least prized penetrates the masses of the population with sentiments of justice and humanity, which, to leave the impress of loyalty and sincerity, must be spontaneous, and exempt from all coercion and violence.

Mr. Christie takes into consideration that I, in my note of the 6th, and my predecessor in his Relatorio and in the Chamber of Deputies on the 7th of July, said that the Imperial Government would forward peremptory and final instructions to the President of the province of Rio Grande do Sul, on being informed of the lamentable occurrence; while from the note of the Ministry of April 19, it would be inferred that the instructions to the President were given after the receipt of the note of Her Britannic Majesty's Legation of October 27 of last year, about five months after the wreck.

Mr. Christie is badly informed in this respect. The Imperial Government first had information of the wreck from officials of the President of the Province of Rio Grande on July 3 to 11; they immediately, on the 10th of August, despatched to the President the most positive and stringent orders, and the most express directions that in a case of this grave nature, the authorities should proceed with the greater circumspection, and with all zeal and carefulness.

On receiving Mr. Baillie's note of the 27th of October, the Imperial Government merely informed the President, repeating the orders and instructions before sent to him.

Mr. Christie proceeds with reference to what my predecessor said in the Chamber of Deputies on July 7, viz., that not considering the proceedings of the President satisfactory, more especially those relating to the inquest held in consequence of the note of the British Legation of the 27th of October, he had sent him instructions to the effect that the Chief of Police should personally conduct new investigations.

And since this discussion tallied with the time of receipt of a fresh note from the British Legation of March 17 last, which set forth that Her Majesty's Government were not satisfied with the proceedings, I ask Mr. Christie whether those orders of my

predecessor might not have been in consequence of his note of March 17. It appears to me that there is a prevailing idea in the mind of Mr. Christie, that but for the intervention and persistency of the British Legation, nothing effectual would be done.

Protesting against the inference of injustice (on our part), and opposing to it the incontestable proof of facts, I beg leave to give them in detail.

The President of Rio Grande do Sul, on December 10 of last year, brought to the notice of the Imperial Government the proceedings of the authorities of the province with reference to the instructions given to it.

These not appearing sufficient, the Imperial Government sent to the President the despatch of December 26th, containing instructions for fresh and energetic investigations, and authorizing him to spare no exertion or expense in order to arrive at the truth, and discover any persons who might be guilty.

Thus Mr. Christie's note had no effect on the mind of the Imperial Government with reference to the duty of obeying the calls of justice or the promptings of humanity.

And the Imperial Government merely transmitted a copy of this note to the President of Rio Grande, renewing the orders and instructions contained in the despatch of December 24, and I must acquaint Mr. Christie of the fact that these orders and instructions were subsequently repeated with stress, in my despatches to the President of Rio Grande of April 22 and 30, May 11, June 14, and July 1 last.

I think I have given as lucid an answer as possible to each of the propositions of Mr. Christie's note, thus having enabled him to furnish his Government with what explanations he wishes. I will not, however, conclude without informing Mr. Christie that, on the day on which I received his note to which this is an answer, I also received a despatch from the President of Rio Grande of the 31st of last month, from which it appears that the investigations and inquests to be held by the authorities have been concluded, resulting in the conviction of eleven persons for robbery, who were immediately committed to prison; and that the Police Delegate of the district was engaged in tracking several of the culprits, who were supposed to have escaped to the adjoining State, with a view to the Imperial Government demanding their extradition.

In assuring Mr. Christie that the Imperial Government, as well as in the wish to fulfil its duties as for its own credit and that of the country at large, will keep in sight this grave affair, and will not shrink from their duty of doing justice and serving the cause of humanity, I avail, &c.

(Signed) THE MARQUIS OF ABRANTES.

Inclosure 4 in No. 49.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, August 22, 1862.

I HAVE received your Excellency's note of 16th instant on the affair of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales," which is so far satisfactory that it informs me of the removal of the Sub-Delegate Delfim Francisco Gonçalves and the Inspector Faustino José d'Oliveira for culpable neglect of duty; of the imprisonment of eleven more individuals who are to be tried for the plunder of the wreck; and of the prosecution of inquiry about others who have fled into Montevidean territory with a view to demand their extradition.

Your Excellency says that you could not have given me any of the additional information in your note of the 6th, as at that time you were not officially cognizant of any part of it; and though it might cause me some surprise to learn that what was published in the Rio newspapers, and known to me from our Consul in the first days of June, should not have been officially known to your Excellency two months later, I could have no difficulty in admitting that you could not tell me officially what officially you did not know. But a little further on in your note your Excellency mentions a different reason for not having given me on the 6th any additional information, and that is, that being more anxious to do your duty in this matter than to let Her Majesty's Government know that you were doing it, you were keeping back your additional information till you could furnish me later with a complete and final statement. There is an obvious discrepancy between your Excellency's two statements; and Her Majesty's Government, on receipt of your last note, will be at a loss to know whether additional information was not before given me because you could not give it, or because you did not care to be in a hurry to do so.

I have no desire to prolong a discussion on the minor points of want of courtesy to Captain Saumarez, and will quit that subject with the remark that if the Chief of Police

was waiting, without saying a word to Captain Saumarez or the Consul to hold an inquiry at which Captain Saumarez was to be present, for the departure of the two vessels which had brought him to Rio Grande, and were remaining there only to carry him back, this conduct shows such a want of perception and ignorance of propriety that the Chief of Police may certainly be acquitted of uncivil intentions.

To your Excellency's observations on menaces and patriotism I will very briefly reply that it passes my understanding to comprehend how any menace could be seen in the presence of the two small vessels which had brought Captain Saumarez to Rio Grande, and how any patriotism worthy of the name could be diverted by that circumstance to the shelter of criminals charged with foul deeds, whose impunity would be the shame of Brazil.

I had hoped that your Excellency would have treated this idea of menace with the same scorn with which the worthy late Minister of Justice repudiated it in the Chamber of Deputies. "What!" exclaimed M. Sayão Lobato, "could a simple gun-boat frighten and alarm the spirited Province of Rio Grande do Sul?"

On one and the same day (the 17th March) I wrote to the English Admiral at Monte Video, requesting him to send a naval officer to co-operate with the Consul at Rio Grande, and to your predecessor Senhor Taques, informing him of the request which I had addressed to the Admiral, and offering the co-operation of a naval officer with the Brazilian authorities if the latter chose to accept it. Is it not strange that the President of the Province had not received direct from Rio one word of information from Senhor Taques as to the probable visit of an English naval officer, while Captain Saumarez had had time to reach Porto Alegre, having been sent by the Admiral from Monte Video after receipt of my letter of March 17th.

It must be for Senhor Taques to explain why he did not hasten to give notice and instructions to the President, that he might have taken measures to prepare the sensitive minds of his province, and guard against unfortunate consequences of an extraordinary susceptibility by timely explanations.

I am happy to know that Senhor Taques sent full and peremptory instructions to the President of the Province on 10th August, of which those sent after the receipt of Mr. Baillie's note of 27th October were merely a repetition; but I am not convinced that the instructions which Senhor Taques is reported to have spoken of as sent before the receipt of my note of 17th March were not those which he sent after receiving that note.

Your Excellency says that my prevailing idea seems to be that nothing would have been done in this matter but for the pressure of the British Legation. You will be good enough to remember that besides the action of the British Legation, Her Majesty's zealous Consul at Rio Grande has from first to last been constantly urging the local authorities. At the end of fourteen months your Excellency announces to me the dismissal of two local functionaries for culpable neglect of duty, and the prosecution of eleven newly suspected individuals; and steps taken to recover some of the culprits who had fled to Monte Video. Why were not these measures sooner taken? Four months ago, when Senhor Taques last wrote to me, only one person had been arrested, and no evidence had been found against him; and Senhor Taques declared that there was nothing to show that the two functionaries who have been dismissed were blameable. Is it strange that I should have the opinion that but for the laudable and persevering efforts of the Consul and the demands of this Legation made by order of Her Majesty's Government, nothing would have been done?

Four months ago Senhor Taques wrote to me that the local functionaries had all done their duty, and confidently called on me to own that they had done everything in their power. In his "Relatorio" of the 13th May, Senhor Taques published a glowing eulogium on the President of the province, who he says has acted in this matter with the greatest zeal, judgment, and propriety. What is the worth of these statements after the announcement tardily made to me in your Excellency's last note?

There is a third local functionary, the Justice of the Peace, Bento Venancio Soares, whose conduct exposed him to grave suspicions of connivance. It is true that Senhor Taques said to me in his note of the 19th April that he could not see any fault in Senhor Soares; but after what he said of the other gentleman now dismissed, his testimony to character cannot be thought of much value. The Imperial Government are bound to show that Senhor Soares is innocent, or disgrace him.

The painful circumstances attendant on this wreck have not only shown that the cargo was heartlessly plundered, but have suggested grave suspicions of foul deeds on persons shipwrecked. Senhor Taques stated in his note of the 19th April that there was nothing to justify a suspicion of assassination. He has made a similar statement in the "Relatorio." Not one particle of proof or argument accompanying these statements,

you will excuse me for not assigning to them more value than belongs to other statements of Senhor Taques, which subsequent events have proved valueless. Your Excellency lately mentioned to me that as regards the suspicions of assassination the Brazilian Government had a clear conscience. It is my duty to state to your Excellency that mere assertion is no answer to the presumptions of murder which has been brought to the notice of the Imperial Government.

You have now dismissed two local functionaries for culpable neglect of duty. While they were culpably dilatory and absent, murders might have been committed by that unrestrained savage population of plunderers.

Senhor Taques stated in his note of the 19th April, in answer to a suggestion of Her Majesty's Government for compensation, that while the authorities did their duty the Brazilian Government could not be made responsible for acts of the population. The admission now made of culpable neglect of the two chief local functionaries renders it impossible for the Imperial Government to persist in refusing to entertain the idea of compensation.

On the day on which I received your Excellency's note of the 16th, the French steamer brought me fresh despatches and instructions from Earl Russell.

I have been instructed to say that Her Majesty's Government have received with great regret the unsatisfactory reports of the progress of this grave question which were in their hands on the 23rd July, and that they will continue to hold the Brazilian Government responsible for ascertaining all the facts of the case, and for the full and impartial execution of justice. Not knowing that two local functionaries have been declared guilty of culpable neglect, but having before them only the praises given by Senhor Taques to all the officials concerned, Her Majesty's Government instruct me to say that it is in any case clear that a crime has been committed which reflects little credit on Brazilian civilization, and that they hope that the Brazilian Government will wish to do all in their power for redeeming the honour of Brazil by compensation to the sufferers.

I need not, after this, say how deep an interest is felt by Her Majesty's Government in this question. The trials of those imprisoned on suspicion will, I hope, be vigorously prosecuted; the efforts begun for apprehending the fugitives in Monte Video will, I hope, be continued. Her Majesty's Government look to that of Brazil for satisfactory answers as to the conduct of the Justice of the Peace, Soares, and the suspicions of murder. Your Excellency must admit that the earlier failures of justice during twelve months need explanation, and I trust that your Excellency, notwithstanding your comparative indifference to the knowledge and appreciation by another Government of your good deeds, will feel it right henceforth to give me early information of every important incident in the development of this question about which, as it concerns the fate of British citizens, to say nothing of British property, Her Majesty's Government as in duty bound are deeply interested.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 50.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received September 22.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 23, 1862.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of March 14, instructing me to apply, if I should think it right, to the Brazilian Government for the payment of certain expenses which have been paid by Mr. Consul Vereker, amounting to 32*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.*, for holding inquests on the bodies found after the wreck of the "Prince of Wales," and for their interment, I have the honour to inclose a copy of a note which, after receiving further information on the subject from Mr. Vereker, I addressed on the 19th July to the Marquis of Abrantes, and to which I have as yet received no reply.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure in No. 50.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, July 19, 1862.

HER Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande do Sul has made known to Her Majesty's Government that he has been required to disburse 314 milreis for the expenses of

burial of persons wrecked in the "Prince of Wales," and of the inquest held upon them, the local authorities having refused to defray these charges. It appears to Her Majesty's Government that these expenses should fall on the Brazilian Government; Her Majesty's Consul having interfered in consequence of the neglect and misconduct of the local authorities, whose obvious duty it was to hold an inquest and give decent burial to the wrecked. I inclose an account in detail of the expenditure which has been imposed on Her Majesty's Consul.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 51.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Layard.—(Received October 6.)

Sir, *Admiralty, October 4, 1862.*

WITH reference to my letter of the 3rd ultimo, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of Earl Russell, a copy of a further letter, dated the 8th September, from Rear-Admiral Warren, with its inclosures in original, respecting the collision between certain officers of the "Forte" and a party of Brazilian police in the neighbourhood of Rio de Janeiro.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 51.

Rear-Admiral Warren to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

My Lord, *"Forte," Rio de Janeiro, September 8, 1862.*

WITH reference to my letter of the 6th ultimo, inclosing, for their Lordships' information, the correspondence relative to the collision which took place on the 17th June between three officers of the "Forte" and a police detachment stationed on the Tijuca Hill, I have now the honour to forward the depositions made by the police to the Brazilian authorities, and the reply of the officers thereto; as also the answer of Mr. Christie, Her Majesty's Minister, to my letter of the 4th instant, inquiring how the business now stands, after his having submitted the officers' rejoinder to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

2. Mr. Christie is of opinion with myself that the violence used by the police is most inexcusable, as is also the assumption of the Chief of Police that the officers were intoxicated, and acting upon such assumption, when it appears that the accusation of their being in liquor was an after thought, and not mentioned in the charges at first made.

3. Her Majesty's Minister and myself are further of opinion that the dismissal of the officer in command of the detachment, the disrating of the non-commissioned officer who played so conspicuous a part in the uncalled-for violence of the police, and the retraction of the Chief of Police of his assumption of the intoxication of these officers, is the very least amends the Brazilian Government ought to offer for the outrage.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RICHARD L. WARREN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 51.

Depositions of the Brazilian Police.

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 48.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 51.

Messrs. Clemenger, Pringle, and Hornby to Rear-Admiral Warren, August 16, 1862.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 48.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 51.

Mr. Christie to Rear-Admiral Warren.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, September 5, 1862.

IN reply to your letter of yesterday I beg to inform you that I have not yet received any answer to the note which you have seen, and which I addressed on the 19th instant to the Marquis of Abrantes, after conferring with you on the whole question of the ill-treatment of the three officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte."

I forwarded a copy of this note to Earl Russell by the last French steamer.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 52.

Earl Russell to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 8, 1862.

HER Majesty's Government have had under their consideration your despatch of the 23rd of August and its inclosures, reporting the recent steps taken by the Brazilian Government in the matter of the wreck of the British ship "Prince of Wales."

This wreck, which is supposed to have occurred on the 6th or 7th of June of last year, was first heard of by Her Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande do Sul on the 13th of that month through Senhor Bento Venancio Soares, a magistrate of the district of Albardao, who had stated in conversation that some bodies had been washed on shore near his house, but professed to have no knowledge of a wreck.

Subsequent inquiries, however, induced Her Majesty's Consul to suspect that a British ship had been wrecked, and he consequently left on the following day for the coast of Albardao with the Municipal Judge and a small Customs guard, and arrived at the house of Senhor Bento Soares, where they were received with most evident reluctance by his daughter, her father having left before their arrival.

Early the following morning, the party visited the scene of the wreck and found the shore strewn with its relics and with parts of the cargo, such as casks, barrels, seamen's trunks, &c., some of which had evidently been dashed to pieces on the beach, but others of which had as evidently been very recently broken open and plundered of their contents. The linings of some of the trunks were quite dry, as if they had been safely brought on shore in boats.

Ten bodies were stated to have been discovered, some of them a long way from the beach, but no money or watches were forthcoming. Property from the wreck, uninjured by water, was found in the house of Senhor Bento Soares.

No inquest having been held on the bodies by the Sub-Delegate of the district, Mr. Vereker proposed to view them; but this was strongly objected to in a most suspicious manner by the Inspector of the district, who was met with on the shore accompanied by an armed force.

Mr. Vereker then returned to Rio Grande and applied for assistance to convey the ten bodies thither for inquest and burial. The assistance was given (though Mr. Vereker had to defray all expenses), but only four of the ten bodies arrived at Rio Grande.

Inquests were subsequently held on the bodies at Rio Grande and on those at Albardao, at the latter place by Sub-Delegate Gonçalves, now disgraced, assisted by the brother-in-law of Senhor Soares, Senhor Pereira de Sousa, who is said to have headed a party of plunderers of the wreck. One body only was disinterred, the others were found unburied, and in an advanced state of decomposition. The verdict on all was, in effect, "Found drowned," though there were most suspicious circumstances attending the discovery of some of them, stripped of their clothes, and far beyond the reach of the tide at high water.

After repeated and earnest applications from Mr. Vereker for a searching inquiry, he at length heard, on the 18th of September, that one man had been convicted of being in possession of property stolen from the wreck. The President of the Province stated at the same time that the chief culprits had fled, and he pleaded the great difficulty of inducing the inhabitants to give any evidence at all in the case. Later on, in December, the same reasons were pleaded for the unsuccessful result of a further inquiry, and although it has been admitted from the first that the wreck was plundered, it was not until August of this year, fourteen months after the wreck occurred, that the Brazilian

Government stated that upon further inquiry two of their officials, whose conduct they had previously praised, had been dismissed, and that eleven persons were being prosecuted for plundering the wreck. For the credit of the Brazilian Government and nation, Senhor Bento Soares should also be put on his trial, and, if found guilty, should be most severely punished.

The Brazilian Government are good enough to add, that they have quite satisfied themselves that none of the crew of the vessel were murdered. Her Majesty's Government are by no means satisfied of this; but it is a question which could only have been set at rest by an immediate inquest on all the bodies of the crew, and by a prompt and searching investigation on the spot, and it is to be feared that the mystery attending the fate of these unfortunate men cannot now be cleared up.

But the time is come when Her Majesty's Government must ask compensation for the plundering of the wreck and of the bodies, and they must look for this compensation to the Brazilian Government, as being responsible for the losses occasioned by the culpable proceedings of their authorities, whose guilt they have at length discovered and admitted.

I have therefore to instruct you to demand from the Brazilian Government compensation for the losses that have been occasioned to the owner of the "Prince of Wales" by the wholesale plunder of the wreck and crew. Mr. Stephens claims for cargo and stores, 5,500*l.*; for freight, 1,025*l.* 19*s.*; in all, 6,525*l.* 19*s.* But this claim is not at present sustained by any sufficient evidence; and it would be incumbent on Mr. Stephens to produce a properly certified estimate of the value of the cargo and stores; and if any demand is to be made for personal property belonging to any passenger on board, proper evidence on this point must be adduced.

But on the Brazilian Government admitting the principle, Her Majesty's Government are prepared to accept a fair arbitration on the question as to the actual amount of compensation to be made, and they will leave the same arbiter or arbiters to determine the amount of the compensation to be made to relatives of the people on board whose bodies were stripped and plundered.

At the same time Her Majesty's Government, having regard to the extraordinary delay and procrastination of the Brazilian authorities in the investigation of this grave matter, must insist that any such arbitration shall be set on foot without loss of time, and shall be conducted with all possible speed to an issue.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 53.

Earl Russell to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 8, 1862.

HER Majesty's Government have read with great regret your despatches of the 7th and 23rd of August, reporting the serious outrage committed on the 17th of June by a Brazilian police-guard on three officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte."

Her Majesty's Government have carefully considered the depositions and evidence taken in this case, and they can come to no other conclusion but that the version given by the three officers is true, and that the defence set up by the Brazilians is unworthy of credit.

The officers state that having obtained leave to go out on a pleasure excursion, they dined temperately at an hotel on the Tijuca Hill, and were hurrying back to catch the omnibus for Rio when they passed the sentry of the guard-house at Tijuca; that Mr. Clemenger, the Chaplain, who was in advance with Mr. Hornby, was approached by the sentry; and that he had scarcely time to ask, in Spanish, what the sentry wanted before he was struck by the butt of the sentry's musket and stabbed at with his bayonet; that the sentry at the same time called out the guard, who rushed upon the three officers, and after much violence drove them into the guard-house, Lieutenant Pringle alone having made any resistance whatever to the brutal violence that was used against them; that on being lodged in the guard-house prison they asked to see the officer of the guard, who, after the lapse of ten minutes or a quarter of an hour, made his appearance for the first time; that they immediately gave on paper their full names and rank, first direct to the officer, and secondly through an interpreter, and wrote to their Captain and to the British Consul to inform them of their position, but these letters, it appears, were withheld, and not forwarded to their destination,

That two of the party were confined for the night in a room called the "refectory" and the third in the prison, and that, on the following morning they were ignominiously marched on foot guarded by an escort (though they offered to pay for a conveyance) to the city police court at Rio, where they again wrote out their names and rank.

That they were then put into a filthy prison among criminals of the lowest class, the prison official admitting that he was aware that they were British officers; and that, after the lapse of two hours, and at the intercession of the British Consul, with whom they had managed to communicate, they were removed into a less dirty prison, and subsequently to the police barracks, where at last they were civilly treated.

That at half-past eleven on the following morning they were released by a written order of the Chief of the Police, no reasons being given for their imprisonment or for their liberation. Such is, shortly, the story of these officers taken from their depositions; and as they have never varied in their statements, which are probable and consistent, and as they have expressed a strong desire to be confronted with the adverse witnesses, Her Majesty's Government are impressed with the conviction, confirmed by the character of the parties as officers and gentlemen, that their story is strictly true.

On the other hand, the version of the affair given by the Brazilian police is supported by evidence in which no confidence can be placed. They state that the officers were drunk, and that they annoyed the passers-by on the road between the hotel and the guard-house, but it is remarkable that no passer-by has been produced to give evidence on this point, and that in the original charge preferred against them by the officer of the police-guard, of which a copy was given them, no mention was made of their being drunk, and no witnesses have been produced who had been annoyed by them on the road.

You justly animadvert in your despatch on the evidence of the officer and soldiers of the guard, who have deposed as to the circumstances of the commencement of the affray between the British officers and the sentry, when by their own admission they were not present at the time, and it is to be observed that the Brazilian officer more particularly has deposed to all the circumstances of the struggle with the guard, while it is positively affirmed that he did not appear until ten minutes after the prisoners were lodged in the guard-house prison.

It is impossible to believe on other points evidence of a witness whose statement is so palpably untrue on this point, and Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that the officer of the Brazilian guard was perfectly aware of the nationality and rank of his prisoners.

Her Majesty's Government cannot submit to leave such an outrage unatoned for, and you will therefore embody the foregoing remarks in a note to the Brazilian Government, warning them at the same time of the serious light in which Her Majesty's Government have viewed the case; and you will demand—

1. That the Ensign of the guard shall be dismissed from the service.
2. That the sentry who commenced the attack shall be adequately punished.
3. That an apology be made by the Brazilian Government for this outrage on British naval officers; and
4. That the Chief of the Police and the official at the Rio police-station shall receive a public censure.

I shall acquaint you, by another opportunity, with the measures which Her Majesty's Government propose to take in the event of the Brazilian Government refusing to comply with these demands.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 54.

Earl Russell to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 8, 1862.

I INCLOSE, for your information and guidance, a copy of the letter that has been addressed to the Admiralty,* respecting my despatches to you of this day's date on the cases of the "Forte" and "Prince of Wales."

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 55.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 8, 1862.

I AM directed by Earl Russell to transmit to you copies of instructions which will be sent out to Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro by the mail of the 9th instant,* specifying the redress which Her Majesty's Government require from the Brazilian Government for the acts of their authorities in the cases of the "Forte" and the "Prince of Wales."

I am to request that you will lay these instructions before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and move their Lordships to communicate them to the Admiral on the Station, and at the same time to direct him to place himself in communication with Mr. Christie, and to make such an arrangement with his ships as shall admit of his proceeding, if necessary, to reprisals, with regard to which instructions will be sent by the next mail.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 56.

Mr. Stephens to Earl Russell.—(Received October 21.)

My Lord,

15, Dixon Street, Glasgow, October 20, 1862.

I HAVE waited very patiently, expecting every post would bring me some compensation for the plunder of the stores, &c., and murder of the crew of the "Prince of Wales" ship by the Brazilians, and to which I again reluctantly am obliged to call your Lordship's attention. It is quite evident coercive measures will require to be taken to obtain redress, and which should have been done at once when the outrage was committed, and which I am strongly of opinion would have been the course adopted by any other nation.

I am, &c.
(Signed) R. P. STEPHENS.

No. 57.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received October 25.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 15, 1862.

WITH reference to my despatch of August 23, I inclose a translation of a note which I have received from the Marquis of Abrantes, acknowledging that Mr. Consul Vereker ought not to have been required to pay the expenses which fell upon him for burials and inquest in connection with the wreck of the "Prince of Wales;" and stating that suitable instructions have been sent to the President of the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, who, I presume, therefore, is instructed to repay 314 milreis (32*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.*) to the Consulate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure in No. 57.

The Marquis of Abrantes to Mr. Christie.

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rio de Janeiro,
September 12, 1862.*

(Translation.)

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of a note from Mr. Christie, Envoy Extraordinary, &c., of Her Britannic Majesty, of the date of July 19, relative to the requisition which was made to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande, for the payment of the expenses of interment of the persons who perished in the shipwreck of the English barque "Prince of Wales," and of the inquest held on them.

In answer, I have the honour to inform Mr. Christie that the Imperial Government has just sent a despatch to the President of the Province of San Pedro de Rio Grande do Sul, telling him that the request he made to the aforesaid Consul, respecting the above-mentioned expenses, was improper; and, in consequence, I issued suitable orders in this sense.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) MARQUIS OF ABRANTES.

No. 58.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received October 25.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 24, 1862.

WITH reference to my despatch of August 23, inclosing copies of correspondence with the Marquis of Abrantes, about the wreck of the "Prince of Wales," I have now the honour to inclose a translation of a further note from his Excellency, and also a copy of my reply.

The principal points in the inclosed note of the Marquis of Abrantes are as follows:—

1. Whereas I had understood from his preceding note that eleven more individuals had been imprisoned on the charge of robbery, and that efforts were being made to discover others, who had fled to Monte Video, it appears that the number eleven is the total of those accused of plunder; and that of these eleven, only one (a man before taken) is in prison; warrants only being out against the others, who have not yet been found. The passage which I had misunderstood in his Excellency's note of the 16th of August is as follows, and is in a note answering a request of mine for information as to the results of the second investigation:—"I will not conclude without informing Mr. Christie, that on the same day on which I received his note I received also a despatch from the President of Rio Grande, dated the 31st of July, from which it appears that the examination and inquiries to which the proper authorities proceeded have been finished, the result being that eleven individuals are accused of the crime of robbery, and that the competent order of imprisonment has issued against them; and that the Delegate of Police was endeavouring to find traces of some criminals who were supposed to have taken refuge in the neighbouring State, in order that the Imperial Government might demand their extradition."

2. The Marquis of Abrantes, who, in his preceding note of the 16th of August, had spoken of the dismissals of the Sub-Delegate (Gonçalves) and the Inspector (Faustino), "who proceeded in the discharge of their duties with culpable negligence," now says that he never spoke of culpable negligence, and that these two functionaries have not been dismissed on account of culpable neglect of duty, but one of them on account of a delay of about two days in transmitting information about the wreck, which he considers a trivial fault, and the other on account of charges, the nature of which is not explained, and which he considers unfounded ("improcedentes") but which impaired his usefulness.

3. The conduct of the Justice of the Peace, Soares, is defended without the slightest attempt to disprove the imputations made against him. "The fact," says his Excellency, "of not being convinced of the connivance which Mr. Vereker attributes to him should necessarily exempt the Justice from all and every censure."

4. Credit is again claimed, in high language, for the spontaneousness and promptitude of the proceedings of the Brazilian Government, and great stress is laid on the difficulties arising out of the distance, isolation, savage character, and other circumstances of Albardao, which his Excellency considers as ample justification for the small results in fourteen months.

5. On the question of assassination, the Marquis of Abrantes condescends at last to an attempt, feeble enough, to justify the statement of Senhor Taques, that the suspicions of murder are unfounded, and his own that the conscience of the Brazilian Government is clear on this subject. His Excellency says:—"All persons residing not only in Albardao, but also in the vicinity of the place of the wreck, have been heard, and others also who were present on the occasion. The Inspector of Customs and the Adjutant of the Chief Guard have also been heard; and all, without any discrepancy, denied the existence of assassinations. His Excellency sends some extracts from the reports made by the President of the Province and the Chief of Police, which, together with the denials of all the parties examined, conclusively prove that no murder

was committed." I inclose a translation of these extracts, which seem to me anything but conclusive, and in which I have been surprised to see a statement that the public voice has never mentioned assassination.

6. The idea of compensation is repudiated, and his Excellency declines to accept your Lordship's observation that a crime has been committed which reflects little credit on Brazilian civilization, and that it is to be hoped that the Brazilian Government will offer compensation to the sufferers.

In my inclosed reply, after noticing his Excellency's corrections of my preceding note, I have again pointed out some of his mistakes and inconsistencies, and replied to some of his statements. I have presented to him the particular grounds on which the Justice of the Peace, Soares, is suspected of connivance, and suggested that there is enough to justify some punishment in his case, when one functionary has been dismissed, without culpable negligence, for a trivial, harmless fault, and another merely on account of unjust charges, which have impaired his usefulness; and finally, while refusing my assent to the statement that the public voice has never charged murder, and refusing implicit belief to the assertions of the residents, and of the two authorities named, who were not present at the time of the wreck, I have stated that I should leave it to Her Majesty's Government to judge whether it is proved that there were no murders, or whether the conscience of the Brazilian Government has not been too easily tranquillized.

I referred these extracts to Admiral Warren, and solicited his opinion on the question of the suspicions of murder, in a letter of which I inclose a copy; and I also inclose a copy of Admiral Warren's reply, to which I beg to call your Lordship's particular attention.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 58.

The Marquis of Abrantes to Mr. Christie.

(Translation.)

Foreign Office, Rio de Janeiro, September 6, 1862.

I HAVE received the note which Mr. Christie addressed to me on the 22nd ultimo.

Still taking for subject the wreck of the "Prince of Wales," and referring to my note of the 16th, in which, on behalf of the Imperial Government, I furnished Her Britannic Majesty's Legation most frankly with all possible details and explanations of the circumstances attending this deplorable affair, Mr. Christie in his note, which I have before me, puts forth a new series of considerations, by which I observe with regret that he is not satisfied, and that he continues to appreciate in a manner little flattering and perhaps less just, not only the conduct in this affair of the Brazilian authorities of the Province of San Pedro Rio Grande do Sul, but also that of the Government of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor.

Being convinced of the sincerity of Mr. Christie's objections, and recognizing the duty laid on me of employing all possible means to dispel these objections from his mind, I will not desist from this task as long as the slightest hope of realizing it remains.

Thus as a proof of the high consideration which the words of Her Britannic Majesty's Representative always deserve from the Imperial Government, I proceed to answer the note which I have before me, considering one by one the propositions contained in it.

Mr. Christie begins by saying that he was happy to learn from my note of the 16th ultimo that the Sub-Delegate and the Inspector of the District of Albardao had been dismissed for culpable neglect of their duties; that eleven more individuals had been taken, against whom proceedings were going on; and that steps were being taken to discover traces of others, who, it was presumed, had fled across the neighbouring frontier, with a view to demanding their extradition.

I beg leave to correct this first paragraph of Mr. Christie's note.

In mentioning the dismissal of the two functionaries I did not speak in my note of the 16th of culpable negligence, and could not speak so, as I will show further on; neither did I say that eleven more persons had been taken. What I had the honour to state was, that the examinations and inquiries were finished, resulting in eleven persons being charged with the crime of robbery, against whom warrants of imprisonment had been

issued, and that attempts were being made to obtain traces of some who, it was supposed, had taken refuge in the Oriental State, in order to require their extradition.

What results, therefore, from the information contained in this part of my note is, that the examinations and efforts of the authorities were concluded, and that the total number of the accused of crime was eleven, of whom some had escaped abroad. Mr. Christie, therefore, misunderstood my meaning when he inferred from my words that eleven more persons were apprehended, and that steps were being taken with regard to others who had fled to a neighbouring State.

Mr. Christie wonders that on the 6th ultimo the Government had not yet received official information already published by the journals, and communicated by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul to his Minister two months before; but admitting the possibility of the fact, and at the same time finding another explanation of it in the declaration which I made that the Imperial Government, more anxious to exercise justice than to tell the British Government that it was doing so, was waiting for the sum total of all the details, in order to inform that Government of the final result of the questions. Mr. Christie finds a discrepancy in these two propositions, which authorizes a doubt whether the information was not given because it was not known, or because it was not wished to give it.

I regret to have to contest the reasonableness of this doubt which has taken possession of Mr. Christie's mind, and which arose from a confusion of facts.

My note of the 16th, to which Mr. Christie alludes, only treats of those accused of crime, and in fact it was only by the communication of the President of the Province of Rio Grande dated 31st July, and received the 14th of August, that the Imperial Government was informed that the number of the accused had risen from three to eleven. Both in that note and in my preceding one of the 6th of the same month, I by preference occupied myself with the accused persons, that being without doubt the principal question. The first duty of the Governor-General and local authorities was to find the criminals; a very difficult task, from especial reasons already explained to Mr. Christie on different occasions.

If the dismissal of the two functionaries and other steps taken by the Government were not the object of my note of the 6th, it is because the steps taken by the authorities were in progress; and the result was not yet known, and convenience did not recommend the communication to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation of measures, so to speak, interlocutory, which had to be completed by others in order to attain the desired end, the discovery of the truth of the alleged acts and of the authors.

This circumstance could certainly not influence the mind of Mr. Christie as to doubting that the Imperial Government had acted with zeal and activity in this important question, actuated, as already said, more by a desire to fulfil the duty of hastening to the call of justice and humanity than by a wish or hope to gain the good opinion of any Government, however great the respect it may feel for it.

Mr. Christie goes on to state that not desiring to prolong the discussion relative to Captain Saumarez, he will end it with the simple observation that if the Chief of Police of the Province waited, without saying a word either to the Captain or the Consul, to begin the inquiry at which the Captain was to assist, for the departure of the two ships, one of which had taken him to Rio Grande, and which was staying there solely to take him back to the River Plate, such a proceeding shows so complete a want of judgment and such an ignorance of what is fitting, that that Brazilian functionary may be acquitted of the fault of incivility.

This opinion of Mr. Christie is not, however, in my opinion, just.

The Chief of Police, as was his duty, took care above all things to choose the most fitting moment to begin the important inquiry which he had to hold.

He judged rightly that the presence of two of Her Majesty's ships would be a powerful obstacle to the discharge of his commission; he, consequently, deferred the beginning of the inquiry in order not to prejudice the interests of justice, to which it was his primary duty to attend, and he neither could nor should sacrifice them to any other considerations.

The Chief of Police did not know, nor had he to inquire, if the English ships were remaining in harbour only to take Captain Saumarez back to the River Plate, and he was also ignorant of the absolute impossibility of that Captain's return to his port in any other way.

It is regrettable that Captain Saumarez could not wait for the opening of the inquiry, but certainly there is nothing to cause surprise in the conduct of the Brazilian authorities in not having hurried it against the conveniences of justice, and only attending to that

circumstance, since it is known that permission was given with difficulty to Captain Saumarez to assist at the inquiry as a simple private person.

If Captain Saumarez could not reconcile his duties as an officer in the British navy with the position of a private person, which he spontaneously accepted, in order to attend the inquiry which was to be held,—if the two positions were incompatible, the responsibility certainly does not fall on the Brazilian authorities, on whom no blame can rest for not having paid attention to Captain Saumarez's official character, as, as must be repeated, that character ceased to exist for the especial case in question.

Mr. Christie, in spite of what I said in my note of the 16th, cannot understand that a threat could be seen in the presence of the two small vessels which took Captain Saumarez, or that legitimate patriotism could be thereby diverted to the shelter of criminals whose impunity would be the shame of Brazil.

Mr. Christie hoped, on the contrary, that I should treat the idea of menace as M. Sayão Lobato treated it in the Chamber of Deputies, *i.e.*, not admitting as possible that a simple gun-boat could frighten and alarm the spirited Province of Rio Grande.

Mr. Christie adds, still referring to this point, that on the 17th of March last he wrote at the same time to the Admiral at Monte Video, requesting him to send an officer of the English squadron to Rio Grande, and to my predecessor Senhor Taques, offering the co-operation of that officer with the Brazilian authorities if they wished to accept it.

And asking if it is not strange that the President of the Province was not informed of the probable visit of the English officer, Mr. Christie says that Senhor Taques ought to explain why he did not hasten to warn the President of the said occurrence in order that the latter might in time prepare the sensitive minds of the Rio Grandenses, thus avoiding the consequences of an exaggerated susceptibility.

It is extremely disagreeable to me to differ from the opinions of Mr. Christie, for whom I have great respect and esteem, but I confess to him that I must continue to insist that the smallest indication is sufficient to represent all the prestige and all the greatness of a nation, above all in circumstances such as those in which the two English ships of war appeared at Rio Grande.

Certainly the population of Rio Grande, as Senhor Sayao Lobato said in the Chamber of Deputies, would not allow itself to be intimidated by the material force of one or more gun-boats, nor do I remember having written such a proposition in the correspondence I have exchanged with Mr. Christie. What I said was, the population was indignant, the national pride was aroused because those vessels carried the flag of a powerful nation, and brought an officer, to whom was attributed the pretension of interfering in the acts of justice of the country. And in fact, what was the object of the presence of the vessels and the officer? Assuredly the small number of persons who composed the crews could not give appreciable help to the Justice of the province, who was again not in need of it. It is, then, natural that the population should imagine that the object of the appearance of the vessels was to show forth the prestige and influence of the country they represented.

It would be difficult, if not impossible, to get a different view taken by the popular masses, and supposing even that the Imperial Government only wished to see in the offer mentioned a sincere desire on the part of Her Britannic Majesty's Government to co-operate with it in discovering the truth, it is certain that the acceptance of such an offer in the public opinion, and even in that of foreigners, would imply at least a confession of impotence or weakness.

Does Mr. Christie consider as exaggerated jealousy the repugnance which is inspired in a people by the intervention of a foreign Government in acts which are of the exclusive competency of the national sovereignty?

Without doubt it is unreasonable to pretend that an offence to patriotism ought to render a people inhuman and unjust, though it has happened even among the most civilized nations. But it cannot be contested that among all nations any one act, however just, performed under foreign pressure, has always been considered by the common people as a proof of weakness and cowardice.

In fact Mr. Christie, on the same day on which he offered to the Brazilian Government the co-operation of an officer of the English squadron, requested the English Admiral at Monte Video to send such officer, which was done before the Imperial Government had answered Mr. Christie's offer. In the meantime Mr. Christie expresses surprise that Captain Saumarez had time to reach Porto Alegre without my predecessor having informed the President of the Province of the visit.

Would not surprise, perhaps, be more justifiable on my side, observing that Mr. Christie, at the same time that he saw fit to consult the Imperial Government, sent orders for the immediate arrival of the officer?

Would it not be natural in such a case to ask why Mr. Christie consulted it, at the same moment without an answer he proceeded definitively as if an answer was not important?

And if by chance, as the Government had the right to expect, Mr. Christie had waited for the answer from my predecessor, would not all these inconveniences have been avoided which have resulted from Mr. Christie's resolution, since my predecessor formally and expressly declined the offer in question?

Continuing his observations, Mr. Christie expresses his satisfaction at learning that Senhor Taques had sent on the 10th of August instructions to the President of Rio Grande do Sul, of which those sent after Mr. Baillie's note were a mere repetition, but at the same time he declares that he is not convinced that the instructions which my predecessor states were sent before the receipt of the note of the British Legation of the 17th March were not sent after that note.

I ought not to be astonished that Mr. Christie is governed by the idea that nothing would have been done without the pressure of the British Legation, and the laudable zeal and activity of the English Consul; because, says Mr. Christie, it is only after fourteen months that the dismissal of two functionaries, the imprisonment of eleven more criminals, and the steps taken to capture others, have been communicated to him.

Observing that four months ago Senhor Taques stated that only one person had been taken, that the local authorities had done their duty, and observing, moreover, that in the Report presented to the Legislative Chamber, this, my predecessor, highly praised the President for his proceedings, Mr. Christie asks what such eulogies can be worth after the tardy communications of my note of the 16th ultimo.

In order to give a suitable answer to these considerations, it is necessary to divide them into two classes which comprehend them; one of which refers to the Imperial Government, the other to the authorities subordinate to that Government.

Mr. Christie cannot but recognize that the Government of an independent country owes to itself the exercise of justice on its own soil. It is an always admitted principle as a base of all discussion, especially among nations which respect one another.

In the meantime, Mr. Christie not only appears to deny such a principle, but, what is more, addressing himself to the Imperial Government itself, he says, with notable frankness, that if anything has been done in this question it is owing to the instances of the Legation and even of the English Consul!

Leaving what there is of bitter and unjust in this proposition, let us examine what are the reasons on which Mr. Christie bases his opinion. Already in his note of the 14th ultimo, Mr. Christie insinuated that all the steps taken by the Imperial Government in this business had resulted from the instances of the British Legation.

Without doubt, it would suffice to reply that the Imperial Government, knowing itself and its high duties, has proceeded as it is accustomed to proceed in similar emergencies; that is, with all zeal, care, and solicitude to discover the truth and to do justice, there being no right to demand from it what is impossible.

Notwithstanding, out of deference to Her Britannic Majesty's Government, I enumerated in my note of the 16th ultimo all the despatches sent by this Department to the President of the Province, from the 10th of August, 1861, to the 1st of July last; thus rendering clear and incontestable that the action of the Government had been as zealous and active as it was spontaneous, and independent of any urging from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation.

There was reason to hope that so complete and so positive a declaration would have convinced Mr. Christie that his supposition was ungrounded. It cannot but cause surprise, however, that since this Mr. Christie even more openly insists in declaring that he continues to think that the Government would have done nothing without the pressure of the Legation and of Mr. Vereker!

As I cannot doubt the sincerity of Mr. Christie's objections, I will prosecute my endeavour to remove them, repeating that by my note of the 16th ultimo documents were cited which prove completely the unreasonableness of his assertion, and adding that the only notes from the British Legation received at this office are those of the 26th of October, 1861, and the 17th of March, 1862, which were at fitting time communicated to the President of the Province; but that, besides these communications, the Imperial Government sent to that President the despatches of the 10th of August, the 26th of December, the 22nd and 30th of April, the 11th of May, the 14th of June, and the 1st of last July, all freely and spontaneously, without any solicitation or demand on the part of the British Legation.

In one point only has Mr. Christie the goodness to yield to evidence, recognizing that with the despatch of the 10th of August the Imperial Government had taken the

initiative in this business, before receiving Mr. Baillie's note; but, on the other hand, he states equally that he is not convinced that the instructions which my predecessor, Senhor Taques, states to have been sent before the note of the British Legation of the 17th of March, were other than those given after receipt of that note; and Mr. Christie expresses himself thus at the same time as he receives communication of the contents of the important despatch of the 26th of December, already mentioned, in the note from this Department of the 19th of April.

Such incredulity on Mr. Christie's part leaves no hope of convincing him by giving him a copy of the said despatch of the 26th of December, seeing that its authenticity might also be denied. Thus far as to Mr. Christie's considerations about the Imperial Government. As to what refers to the proceedings of the local authorities, I will begin by telling Mr. Christie, before everything, that in my note of the 16th there is no expression from which blame of their proceedings can be inferred; and the truth is, that the President had in this question behaved with all possible zeal, activity, and justice. Nor do the repeated despatches addressed to him by the Imperial Government prove this functionary guilty of neglect in the discharge of his duties, as Mr. Christie appears to argue.

In the midst of the great difficulties with which he had to struggle, he used always on his side all possible endeavours, never failing to inform the Government in time of the results obtained; which did not prevent the Government, as it received this information, from earnestly recommending him to prosecute the inquiries diligently, so as to arrive as quickly as possible at a knowledge of the truth, authorising the President to use all resources, including pecuniary. It would also be unjust to deny that the Chief of Police, in the discharge of his obligations, showed zeal, care, and activity, by no means common; the Municipal Judge and the Justice of the Peace also behaved properly.

The only fact on the part of the provincial authorities which can deserve censure is the delay in the Inspector of the District of Albardao, in reporting the shipwreck to the Sub-Delegate; a delay which still did not exceed two days, since the accident happened on the 9th, and the communication was made on the 11th of June, 1861.

In the meanwhile, notwithstanding the slightness of the offence, which it must be admitted had no influence on the results, the Inspector and Sub-Delegate were dismissed; not as guilty, but the first for having made the above-mentioned omission, and the latter for having, in consequence of accusations brought against him, lost the prestige which ought to belong to the authorities.

Such disputes caused, as is said, by faults of slight importance, prove the zeal with which both the General Government, the President, and the Chief of Police have proceeded in the difficult and grave affair in question.

In answer to Mr. Christie's last observation on this topic,—that in which he asks me why inquiries were not instituted sooner,—I am obliged to repeat what I have already often said, namely, that Albardao is a desert inhospitable coast, from which culprits can very easily escape to the neighbouring territory.

Shall I need to prove to Mr. Christie, clear-sighted and enlightened as he is, the difficulties which of necessity opposed themselves to the prompt carrying out of an inquiry in such a place as that, and in such circumstances?

A calm and impartial appreciation of the difficulties could not fail to produce the conviction that fourteen months was not too long a time to arrive at the result which has been attained.

Whatever may be thought, it is positive and incontrovertible that neither the Imperial Government nor the local authorities spared either trouble or sacrifices to fulfil their duty; all which appears from the documents of the proceedings.

Mr. Christie says that grave suspicions of connivance have fallen on the Justice of the Peace, Bento Venancio Soares. Senhor Taques, in his note of the 19th of April, says such suspicions are unfounded; but as he said the same with regard to the two functionaries who have been dismissed, the assertion has not much value; and Mr. Christie concludes that the Imperial Government are bound either to prove the innocence of Senhor Soares, or to dismiss him.

Mr. Christie will allow me to contest his right to discredit with such great facility the assertions of Senhor Taques, without exhibiting the reasons from which he derives this right.

From what I have explained above, it is seen that all that Senhor Taques stated with respect to the subaltern authorities is the pure truth. If Mr. Christie's memory had helped him, he would remember, doubtless, what Senhor Taques said about the subaltern authorities in his note of the 19th April; that is, in the meanwhile, if culpable

neglect on the part of these functionaries is recognized, the President of the Province will take the necessary steps that such a proceeding may not remain without due censure.

In these words Senhor Taques told Mr. Christie that, up to the moment of his writing, he had no reason to believe that there was culpable negligence on the part of the subaltern authorities; but that if, by the inquiries which were to be held, such negligence was proved, the parties would certainly not remain unpunished.

Instructions being sent in this sense to the President of the Province of Rio Grande, he, in the fulfilment of them, ascertained that the Inspector had been negligent, delaying one or two days the communication of the event to the competent authority, and that the Sub-Delegate, from accusations (unfounded) had lost the prestige necessary to the fulfilment of his duties. Consequently both were dismissed, not for culpable neglect, which would have had to be punished by legal means, but the first for simple negligence of the short delay in announcing the event, from which neglect no prejudice or harm arose to the action of justice, and the second for not possessing moral strength enough for his charge.

Thus, there was no culpable neglect; and as to the Justice of the Peace, the fact of his not having been convicted of the connivance attributed to him by Mr. Vereker ought necessarily to exempt him from all and every censure. From whence it may be inferred also, that there is no reason in the only argument which Mr. Christie has brought forward to prove that the said Justice of the Peace should be dismissed, or that the Government should prove his innocence. It is not only a question of robbery, says Mr. Christie; there were grave suspicions of murder. In his note of the 19th of April, and the Relatorio of this year, Senhor Taques said nothing justified these suspicions; but as his Excellency asserted other things now admitted to be inexact, what he says on this subject merits little credence; and alluding to the declaration which I made, that, as to the suspicions of murder, the Imperial Government had a quiet conscience, Mr. Christie says that mere assertions are not proofs, and asks whether two functionaries having been dismissed for culpable negligence, that negligence would not give opportunity for the assassination of some of the unfortunate shipwrecked persons.

I think that what I have said in answer to the preceding observations of Mr. Christie is more than enough to prove the groundlessness of his reasoning as to the little faith to be placed in Senhor Taques' assertions.

The new argument produced by Mr. Christie that mere assertions are not proofs, certainly tells more in favour of the Imperial Government than of Mr. Christie, since the accuser always has to furnish proofs or bases of the accused's crime, and not the latter to prove his innocence, especially when nobody knows on what the accusation is founded. The two functionaries, I repeat, were not dismissed for culpable neglect; and to pretend that assassinations were committed in the short interval between the wreck and the announcement of it to the Sub-Delegate, cannot go beyond a vague conjecture, which affords no point of departure for discovering the truth,

Mr. Christie's arguments being thus answered, let us inquire how the Brazilian authorities proceeded with regard to the presumed murders.

Such a suspicion had its birth in Mr. Vereker's mind, who conceived it, as he declared, in consequence of public rumours.

In various communications, among others in that of June 20th, he gave the reasons on which he based his idea that some of the wrecked persons had been murdered. This, however, did not prevent him, on the 22nd of April, from writing the following words to the Provincial Chief of Police:—"Let me observe that it is unjust to attribute to me especially the suspicion that some persons belonging to the barque were murdered, as not only I never expressed such an opinion in my despatches, but I believe that such suspicions were entertained by persons who had knowledge of the circumstances."

The authorities did not on this account cease from repeated inquiries. Not only all persons dwelling at Albardao were heard, but also persons living near the scene of the wreck, and, again, others who appeared there on the occasion.

The Inspector of the Custom-house and the adjutant of the chief officer were also examined, and they all without discrepancy denied the existence of murder.

In order not to render too tedious to Mr. Christie this note, already too long, I abstain from transcribing here passages from several despatches from the President of the Province and the Chief of Police relative to this part of the question. But calling Mr. Christie's attention to the inclosed copies, I will venture to ask if it was possible to do more with a view of satisfying vague suspicions, and if I have not abundant reason to declare that the Government has a quiet conscience in this respect.

Mr. Christie observes that the British Government claimed an indemnity, and that

Senhor Taques replied that the authorities having done their duty, the Government could not be responsible for the acts of the people. In the meantime, two functionaries having been dismissed for culpable negligence, it appears to Mr. Christie impossible for the Imperial Government to refuse the claimed indemnity.

There does not exist the connection which Mr. Christie has discovered between the first and second parts of the above-mentioned statements of Senhor Taques. Mr. Christie on reflection will see doubtless that they form two distinct propositions expressing different ideas.

Senhor Taques states, first, that a Government is not responsible for acts committed without its co-operation or suggestion by its subjects against foreigners; secondly, that the duties of a Government do not go beyond the employment of the means in its power for learning the truth and for punishing the guilty.

Now, Mr. Christie not being able to suppose that there was any co-operation or suggestion on the part of the Government to cause what has happened at Albardao, or to deny that the Government employed all possible means to discover and punish the persons who committed those acts, it is plain that the above-mentioned allegations of Senhor Taques do not establish the responsibility Mr. Christie wishes to attribute to the Imperial Government. The two functionaries were not dismissed, as alleged by Mr. Christie, for culpable negligence. The dismissal of the first arose from a slight fault, as has already been said, which has had no influence in the question; that of the second was counselled by the convenience of not retaining the functionary who had lost influence.

It is, then, incontestable that from the dismissal of very subordinate functionaries caused as I have explained, Mr. Christie cannot justly conclude that the Imperial Government is responsible or obliged to give any indemnity which the British Legation may please to claim; the more so when it can be asserted, as I assert, that all the superior authorities of the province have fulfilled, and are fulfilling satisfactorily, their duties in this distressing question.

Mr. Christie further declares that the British Government, little satisfied with the information hitherto obtained, continues to hold the Imperial Government responsible for the complete clearing up of the facts and execution of justice.

Being ignorant of the dismissal of the two functionaries, and only knowing the praise awarded them by Senhor Taques, the British Government instructed Mr. Christie to declare to the Imperial Government that the crime committed does little credit to Brazilian civilization, and that it hoped that the Government would do all in its power to save the honour of Brazil, awarding an indemnity to the sufferers.

Mr. Christie, without partiality, cannot but recognize that the Imperial Government has taken every possible step and measure to clear up the facts minutely, and continues to prosecute the criminals so that they may be punished as they deserve.

The Imperial Government claims to have done as much as is incumbent on any Government which respects sentiments of justice and humanity; it cannot, therefore, accept Earl Russell's observations.

Mr. Christie says, in conclusion, that the British Government takes the greatest interest in this question. He hopes that the trial of the prisoners will be followed up, as well as that steps will be taken for the capture of the fugitives. He hopes that a satisfactory answer will be given respecting the Justice of the Peace and the suspicion of assassination, and he also hopes for an explanation of the delay of twelve months in the action of justice.

And Mr. Christie trusts that, notwithstanding my comparative indifference as to the knowledge and appreciation by the British Government of the acts of the Government of the Emperor, I shall judge it proper to give early information on the important incidents and all the development of the question.

I shall answer this last topic of Mr. Christie's note by assuring him that the trial will continue, as also the steps for the capture of the fugitives.

As to the delay in the action of justice, the suspicion of assassination, and the conduct of the Justice of the Peace, nothing remains for me to add to what I have already said, not being able even to fix with certainty a period at which it will be possible to attain the discovery of the residences, and the capture of the fugitives.

Finally, I assure Mr. Christie that the Imperial Government will have much pleasure in communicating to him all that takes place of importance, giving him any information which he wants and which the Government possesses, in order that not the slightest doubt may remain either as to the prudence, activity, and zeal of the Imperial Government in so grave an affair, or as to the employment of all possible means for arriving at the truth.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) MARQUIS OF ABRANTES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 58.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, September 18, 1862.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Excellency's reply, dated the 6th instant, to my note of the 22nd ultimo, on the subject of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales."

I regret to learn that I had mistakenly attributed greater results to the second investigation, instituted after the receipt of my note to Senhor Taques of March 17, than have really ensued; and I now understand that instead of eleven more individuals having been imprisoned on suspicion of plunder, and some others beyond the number eleven being sought for in Monte Videan territory, as I had erroneously inferred from your Excellency's last note, the eleven spoken of include the one previously imprisoned, two previously accused, who had escaped into Monte Videan territory, and all others who are being there sought for, and that the fact is that only eleven in all now stand accused of plundering, of whom only one, the man at first taken, is in prison.

The latter inquiry has, however, led to accusations against eight more individuals. The satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government would hear of any new proceedings or discoveries would always be mingled with regret that more effectual measures were not earlier, or indeed immediately taken, and the smaller the new results the greater will be that regret.

I cannot adopt your Excellency's opinion that the distance and isolation of Albardao, its "desert and inhospitable coast," and the facility of escape from thence to the Monte Videan territory, furnish much good excuse for the Brazilian authorities, still less that they justify a delay of fourteen months; for Albardao can be reached in eighteen hours from Rio Grande do Sul. The greater the facility for escape the more necessary is prompt action to prevent it, and your Excellency expresses your satisfaction at the sufficiency of the administration of the police of the province, and even shows resentment at the offer, made in good faith, of the co-operation of a British naval officer in the inquiries which, notwithstanding the good organization of the police of the province, you represent as attended with overpowering difficulties.

In your note of the 16th ultimo, your Excellency, referring to my inquiry about the reported dismissal of two functionaries, and not quoting my words, speaks of "the dismissal of the Sub-Delegate D. F. Gonçalves and the Inspector F. J. d'Oliveira, who proceeded in the discharge of their duties with culpable negligence." There is not one word in the rest of the note denying that culpable negligence was the cause of their dismissal. I consider myself amply justified in having understood that your Excellency admitted that these two persons had been dismissed for culpable neglect of duty; and I cannot acknowledge the correctness of your present statement, that you did not speak in that note of culpable negligence.

Her Majesty's Government, however, will now learn, not I think without regret, that your Excellency asserts that these two functionaries have not been dismissed for culpable neglect of duty, but that one of them has been dismissed for a delay in giving information about the wreck, which is regarded as a trivial fault, and the other in consequence of some charges made against him, the nature of which you do not explain, which may or may not be connected with the wreck, which you say are without foundation, but which are thought to have affected his usefulness and influence in what you represent as a very subordinate post.

With every desire to be convinced by your Excellency, I am sorry that your explanations have not reconciled the discrepancy between two statements in your note of the 16th of August, in answer to my expression of regret that you had not given me on an earlier occasion some additional information; one of these statements being, "It was not possible for me to tell you more than was officially known to the Imperial Government," and the other, "I will tell Mr. Christie frankly, that the Imperial Government knowing itself, and more eager to fulfil its important obligations and attend to the claims of justice than to obtain the good opinion of any Government, however much it may respect or desire to merit it, has preferred to elevate itself to the employment of the proper means for arriving at the whole truth of the case, waiting to announce at one and the same time to Her Majesty's Government the final result of what had been done. This is why I did not include in my last note either the circumstance of the dismissal of the Sub-Delegate and Inspector, or the proofs collected against various individuals implicated in the crime of plunder."

I am also sorry to say of your Excellency's further explanations about the conduct of the Chief of Police towards Captain Saumarez, that they do not in the least

alter my opinion. Though Captain Saumarez was to attend the promised inquiry unofficially, he did not cease to be a Captain of Her Majesty's Navy, and Flag-Captain of the Admiral commanding on this station. The Chief of Police knew that he was waiting to attend the inquiry, and if he wished to postpone it till the man-of-war which brought Captain Saumarez went away, common sense might have suggested to him, as common courtesy required him, to say so to Captain Saumarez. This officer might then, perhaps, have sent the vessels away, ordering them to return for him later.

Your Excellency finds fault with me for having written to the English Admiral to request him to send a naval officer and a man-of-war to Rio Grande do Sul on the same day on which I wrote to Senhor Taques to consult him on the subject, and you think it extraordinary that I did not wait for the reply of Senhor Taques. Your Excellency has here made a mistake. I did not consult Senhor Taques: I informed him that I wrote to the Admiral to request him to send a naval officer to aid and advise our Consul, and I offered his assistance to the Brazilian Government if they chose to accept it. I could not think it necessary to consult Senhor Taques about the sending of a British naval officer to Rio Grande to communicate with our Consul, or about the visit of a British man-of-war to a Brazilian port.

Her Majesty's Government are yet far from being convinced of the spontaneousness and promptitude which Senhor Taques and your Excellency agree to claim for the proceedings of the Imperial Government in this distressing question. I am aware that your Excellency, in your note of the 16th ultimo, stated the purport of a despatch of Senhor Taques to the President of the Province, of the 26th of December, and enumerated the dates of several communications from the Government at Rio to the President of Rio Grande. These dates are again enumerated in your Excellency's last note, with the declaration that all the despatches so dated were sent "quite freely and spontaneously, without any solicitation or demand from the British Legation." Will your Excellency permit me to remind you that besides Mr. Vereker's persevering efforts and the notes of this Legation, strong instances have been verbally made to your Excellency and your predecessor, and the late Minister of Justice. All the correspondence of the Rio Government and the local authorities, if not before made known *in extenso* to Her Majesty's Government, will, I presume, according to custom, be published in a future Relatorio. Should it appear, from a perusal of the whole correspondence and a general review of all the proceedings, that any injustice has been done to the Imperial Government, your Excellency may feel assured that it will be eagerly acknowledged.

I was quite aware that Senhor Taques had used in his note of the 19th of April, the words which you quote, and which are to the effect that if any culpable negligence were discovered in the conduct of the Sub-Delegate of Tahim and the Inspector of the district, the President of the Province would not fail to give suitable censure. But Senhor Taques, in the same note, made the following statements, which you do not cite:—

"From the information which the Undersigned has alluded to, it does not result that the Inspector of the district—who it may be observed in passing is not an authority, but a mere agent of authority—who lived at a distance of six leagues from the spot, or the Sub-Delegate of Tahim, who lived at the same or even greater distance, was blameable for what happened." "The Undersigned does not understand why the Consul blames the Justice of the Peace of the district for not having immediately given knowledge of the fact to the superior authorities. The proper functionary for this purpose was the Sub-Delegate, and he did his duty."

"The local authorities did their duty as far as was permitted by the distances and difficulties which prevented their proceeding more quickly. The Undersigned will observe to Mr. Christie that there can be no doubt that the authorities took on the occasion all possible measures, though they may have arrived later than was to be wished.

These are the statements on which I founded my assertion, that Senhor Taques had, four months ago, not only seen no blame in any one, but had praised all the authorities. I admit, however, that the contrast between the two late dismissals, and the statements of Senhor Taques, is much diminished by your Excellency's explanation, that the two functionaries in question have been dismissed without having been guilty of culpable negligence.

With regard to the Justice of the Peace, your Excellency follows the example of Senhor Taques, makes no attempt to explain the suspicious circumstances in his case, confines yourself to mere strong assertion, and says that "the mere fact of not being convinced of the connivance attributed by Mr. Vereker, should necessarily exempt the

Justice of the Peace from all and any suspicion." It becomes necessary for me to state to you fully the reasons why strong suspicion has fallen on Senhor Soares. The wreck probably took place on the 8th or 9th of June—your Excellency says the 9th. It is certain that on the 9th the fact of the wreck was known where Senhor Soares lives. A boy belonging to the house of Senhor Soares saw the shore strewn early on the morning of the 9th, and immediately reported it. News of the wreck was received by the Delegate of Police at Rio Grande on the 14th; and there had been, according to your Excellency's admission, an unnecessary, though not culpable, delay of two days in the transmission of this intelligence. Senhor Soares had arrived at Rio Grande on the 12th, mentioned casually that he had heard a rumour that some bodies had been washed ashore, near his house; on being questioned, denied all knowledge of a wreck, and immediately left Rio Grande for Pelotas, where he stayed some days out of the way. Mr. Vereker, when he arrived at the spot on the 16th, found in the house of Senhor Soares two new English Bibles in perfect condition, which had been taken out of cases washed on shore. Mr. Vereker also saw in his house two cases belonging to the "Prince of Wales," empty, but dry, and in perfect order, which were identified by the marks as cases which had contained fine manufactured goods, none of which have been produced. Senhor Soares is the leading man of that locality; most of the surrounding population are his relatives, *compadres*, or dependents, and goods were found in the houses of a number of his retainers. The ex-Inspector of the district, Faustino, is his son-in-law; his wife, the daughter of Soares, was in her father's house when Mr. Vereker visited the spot. Mr. Vereker has thus described his reception at this house:—"We were unwillingly received, though we offered to pay for everything. The daughter of Senhor Soares, Faustino's wife, was the only person to act; she was excessively fearful and suspicious, and above all, hearing that I was the English Consul, she seemed incommoded. That night we remained without refreshment, being most grudgingly admitted to shelter, and not receiving food either for ourselves or horses, a few biscuits, which I had happily carried in my saddle-bag, being the principal support of the party."

Your Excellency and your predecessor have made much of the difficulties in the way of collecting evidence and apprehending criminals in that locality; and Mr. Consul Vereker has stated his conviction, that unless Senhor Soares, who is powerful in the district, were first disgraced, there was little chance of obtaining information.

These are among the grounds on which Senhor Soares is suspected of connivance at the crimes of Albardao. Your Excellency will, I think, admit that something more than bare denial may fairly be expected from the Imperial Government. When the Sub-Delegate and Inspector have been dismissed, one for a trivial harmless fault, and the other on account of unjust accusations, which have impaired his usefulness, I cannot understand how this Justice of the Peace should escape punishment.

On the subject of the suspected assassinations, your Excellency has now, for the first time, furnished me with some reasonings and statements in support of your strongly expressed contrary conviction. Your note will be communicated by the first opportunity to Her Majesty's Government, who will judge whether, under all the circumstances of this case, it can be considered proved that no murder was committed, or whether the conscience of the Imperial Government has not been too easily tranquillized. I am bound to say that, with the information which I have obtained from Her Majesty's Consul, Captain Saumarez, and others, I cannot admit the correctness of the statement that the public voice has never charged murder, and you will excuse me if I do not attach the same importance as yourself to the assertions in this matter of the inhabitants of Albardao and the neighbourhood, who are interested witnesses, or of the Inspector of Customs and adjutant of the guard, who can know no more than Mr. Vereker or any one else who was not on the shore when the wreck took place.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 58.

Extracts from the Reports of the President and Chief of Police of the Province of San Pedro, Rio Grande do Sul.

Report of the President of April 10.—"All the bodies did not disappear. Four of them were transported to Rio Grande, and being there examined by Dr. José de Pontes França, he declared that the cause of death was asphyxia, from drowning. It appears an extraordinary thing to the Consul that the bodies of the other shipwrecked people

were not found; but it is very possible that the place of their graves had been lost. Everybody knows that the whole coast from Torres to Castillas (in the Oriental State) is composed of loose sand, which the wind blows about every day, raising in one hour very high sand-heaps, which the next are moved to another spot."

Chief of Police, April 13.—"The Consul's supposition that some of the shipwrecked people were the victims of assassination is unfounded, as the inquest held on the bodies shows nothing to corroborate such a suspicion. On the contrary, it is recognized that the shipwrecked people died from asphyxia from drowning. The public voice has neither at the time of the shipwreck nor now made mention of such a crime. There is not one positive fact."

The President's despatch of May 14.—"With reference to the arguments which the Consul brings forward relative to the fragments of the vessel, cargo, and boats, and the places where the bodies were found—arguments totally refuted by the captain of frigate José Pereira Pinto, ex-administrator of the bar pilotage of the province, in his document of the 9th May. It was enough for the Consul to reflect on the force of the currents and winds in winter, and also the difference of weight between a human body and a case of merchandize or a ship's timber, to understand that it was impossible that they should all come to shore at exactly the same spot. It remains to be observed that the ship went to pieces, that the boat had the same fate, and that the shipwreck having taken place at about a league from the shore, it was very difficult for the crew to survive the tempest."

July 21. Charges brought against those accused by the Delegate of Termo.—From the inquiries made, it is proved that ten bodies came on shore already eaten by animals, and in a complete state of decomposition, there not being the slightest suspicion of there being any other cause of their death,

Inclosure 4 in No. 58.

Mr. Christie to Rear-Admiral Warren.

Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, September 13, 1862.*

I INCLOSE you a translation of some extracts from reports made to the Brazilian Government from Rio Grande do Sul,* which have been communicated to me to show that the suspicions of murder of some of the crew of the "Prince of Wales" are without foundation. You are already, I believe, in possession of all the information furnished by Mr. Consul Vereker in support of those suspicions.

There are some points in this question which give special value to the opinion of a naval officer, and I should feel much obliged to you if you would communicate to me your opinion on the question of murder on the evidence now before us, for my guidance and for the information of Earl Russell.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 58.

Rear-Admiral Warren to Mr. Christie.

Sir, *"Forte," Rio de Janeiro, September 23, 1862.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, inclosing a translation of some extracts from reports made to the Brazilian Government from Rio Grande do Sul, communicated to you, to show the suspicions entertained of the murder of some of the crew of the "Prince of Wales" are without foundation, and requesting my opinion on the question of murder on the evidence now before us.

After a careful perusal of Mr. Vereker's report to the Secretary of the Board of Trade, dated 25th June, 1861, and also of his letter to the Delegate of Police at Rio Grande do Sul, dated 20th, June 1861, I was fully of opinion that Mr. Vereker was justified in his suspicions that the crew of the "Prince of Wales" had been unfairly dealt with, nor do the extracts you now forward to me from the reports of the President and Chief of the Police of the province of St. Pedro, Rio Grande do Sul, lead me in any way to alter that opinion.

Heavy gales from east-south-east had visited the coast of Albardao on the 7th of

* Inclosure 3 in No. 58.

June, 1861 ; on the 9th it is known in the neighbourhood that a wreck had taken place ; and on the 16th Mr. Vereker arrives at the scene of the disaster, where he finds the ship's long-boat and gig on the beach with the oars in them, and close to them boxes such as merchant seamen keep their clothes in, broken open and empty, and although several were papered inside, there is no appearance of their having been wet inside. The hull of the vessel he also sees half a league off apparently at anchor.

The question here arises how the boats could have got there without people in them ? It is not possible that had the boats been upset, and washed on shore over the rocks on to the beach, they could have been in the condition described by Mr. Vereker, viz., "with the prow of the long-boat damaged, as if by striking on the sand, and the gig perfectly sound, and the oars in the boats ;" nor is it likely that both would have come to the same spot. The inference, therefore, is that some of the crew got on shore in these boats, and it does not appear to me at all improbable that they were afterwards made use of to plunder the wreck, as Mr. Vereker states that on the 16th the "Prince of Wales" appeared as if at anchor, and that a large portion of the cases and crates on the beach, which were broken open and plundered of their contents, did not seem even wet.

The ship at that time had evidently not broken up, so it is not likely that so much of the cargo could have been washed out of her, and reached the shore in the condition the empty cases, &c., were in, when seen by Mr. Vereker.

When we also consider the unwillingness shown by the Inspector of the district to point out the spot where the bodies were buried, and which never were pointed out, the Municipal Judge being unable to compel the Inspector to point them out from his having an armed force with him, which, by Mr. Vereker's report, the Judge was evidently in fear of ; I hold, therefore, that we are perfectly justified in coming to the conclusion that it was not without reason the bodies were kept back.

Mr. Vereker also found in the house of Senhor Bento Venancio Soares, Justice of the Peace of the district, a beautiful edition of the Bible, with a smaller one, confessed to have been taken out of the trunks, and showing no stains, or signs of having been even damp.

From Mr. Vereker's statement of what he saw, I am of opinion that the crew and passengers, or several of them, did get on shore, and that the ship was plundered.

Where the jolly boat was found, about a league from the other boats, Mr. Vereker is informed several bodies were found near her, which I consider a proof that they landed in her ; otherwise, it is not likely that a boat and four or five bodies would have drifted exactly to the same spot.

Report of the President of April.—"All the bodies did not disappear ; four of them were transported to Rio Grande, and being there examined by Dr. José de Pontes França, he declared that the cause of death was asphyxia from drowning. It appears an extraordinary thing to the Consul that the bodies of the other shipwrecked people were not found ; but it is very possible that the place of their graves had been lost. Everybody knows that the whole coast, from Torres to Castillas (in the Oriental State), is composed of loose sand, which the wind blows about every day, raising in one hour very high sand-heaps, which in the next are removed to another spot."

That Mr. Vereker considers it extraordinary that the bodies of the other shipwrecked people were not found, he is quite justified in doing. When we bear in mind that only seven days had elapsed from the time of the wreck, even admitting that the winds and waves had drifted the sand over the graves they could not have obliterated from the memory of those who buried them the place of their interment ; it is also to be remarked that nothing whatever has been produced that was found on the bodies, and it is most improbable they would have left the ship without some of their valuables about their persons.

Mr. Vereker further states that three bodies out of the four sent up for the inquest had not been buried, which does not agree with the statement that the bodies were buried in the sand, nor is it to be credited that the trouble would have been taken to convey four dead bodies a very considerable distance from the beach and then left exposed.

Report of Chief of Police of April 13.—"The Consul's supposition that some of the shipwrecked people were the victims of assassination is unfounded, as the inquest held on the bodies shows nothing to corroborate such a suspicion ; on the contrary, it is recognized that the shipwrecked people died from asphyxia from drowning. The public voice has neither at the time of the shipwreck nor now made mention of such a crime. There is not one positive fact."

Nothing in this report in any way shows that the Consul's suppositions of some of the shipwrecked people having been assassinated is unfounded.

The Consul is informed that ten bodies have been found ; he demands them all, four are sent up.

He has demanded to be shown where the others have been buried, which is refused ; he has, therefore, a perfect right to suppose they have been kept back for a purpose. Had it been otherwise, we should then conclude that the authorities would have been as desirous of producing them as they have shown themselves to be determined to keep them back. Mr. Vereker before putting his name to the inquest noted thereon his disagreement with the finding.

With respect to the assertion that "no mention has been made by the public voice, either at the time or now, of such a crime," I was informed by Captain Saumarez, of the "Forte," on his return from Rio Grande, that the affair was discussed in the newspapers, whilst he was there in the early part of May 1862, and that one of them attacked the other for stating that some of the crew were strangled. The impression was that the poor fellows were not all drowned, and on the 14th May, 1862, carts arrived at Rio Grande, with things that had been plundered from the "Prince of Wales," and the authorities took no notice, and some of the soldiers who accompanied the Consul to the scene of the wreck, it was also stated to him, were it not from fear, could give evidence on the question very confirmatory of our suspicions.

The President's despatch of May 14.—"With reference to the arguments which the Consul brings forward relative to the fragments of the vessel, cargo, and boats, and to the places where the bodies were found,—arguments totally refuted by the Captain of the frigate, José Pereira Pinto, ex-administrator of the bar pilotage of the Province, in his declaration of the 9th of May, it was enough for the Consul to reflect on the force of the currents and the winds in winter, and also the difference of weight between a human body and a case of merchandise, or a ship's timber, to understand that it was impossible that they should all come to shore at exactly the same spot. It remains to be observed, that the ship went to pieces, that the boat had the same fate, and that the shipwreck having taken place about a league from the shore, it was very difficult for the crew to survive the tempest."

We are here told, that the Consul's arguments are totally refuted by the Captain of the frigate, José Pereira Pinto ; but I do not see that such assertion is proved, as when Mr. Vereker visited the scene of the disaster, he distinctly states that the vessel appeared as if at anchor, about half a league off, and the boats on the sand but little injured, with their oars in them ; and the place where it is stated the bodies were buried, is not shown to him ; on the contrary is withheld.

On the 16th of June, not more than eight or nine days after the disaster, the ship had not gone to pieces ; the boats had not also shared the same fate ; as stated in Captain José Pereira Pinto's report, but were in a sound state on the beach, with their oars in them ; and as Mr. Vereker could get no information as to where the bodies were stated to have been found, except that they came on shore two or three leagues to the northward, and the place of their interment, stated to have been in the sand, is refused to be shown him, he could have arrived at no conclusion as to the drifts. The attempted refutation is, therefore, no refutation whatever. It supposes an entirely different state of the wreck, &c., to that so clearly stated by Mr. Vereker existed.

July 21. Charges brought against those accused of plunder by the Delegate of Termo.—"From the inquiries made, it is proved that the bodies came on shore, already eaten by animals, and in a complete state of decomposition, there not being the slightest suspicion of there being any other cause of their death."

It is here stated, that from inquiries made, it is proved that the bodies came on shore eaten by animals, and in a complete state of decomposition. If so, how could the medical man have satisfied himself that the four sent up, died by drowning ; and if all ten came on shore in the same state, why could not the whole number have been forwarded for the inquest instead of four only, bearing in mind that the demand for an inquest was made only seven days after the disaster ?

It is also worthy of remark that when Mr. Vereker was at the place of the wreck, the captain was spoken of ; if the bodies were washed ashore in the state described, "eaten by animals, and in a state of decomposition," how could the captain's body be known from the others ? And nothing whatever is produced in the shape of clothes, papers, or anything which, under such circumstances, the captain of a ship would attempt to save.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

RICHARD L. WARREN.

No. 59.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Stephens.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 29, 1862.

I AM directed by Earl Russell to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, and I am to inform you in reply that Her Majesty's Minister in Brazil has been again instructed to press the Brazilian Government for compensation in the case of the "Prince of Wales."

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 60.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 4, 1862.

WITH reference to my letter of the 8th ultimo, I am directed by Earl Russell to transmit to you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copies of further instructions which his Lordship will despatch to Her Majesty's Minister at Rio by the mail of the 8th instant,* respecting the steps to be taken should the Brazilian Government refuse to concede the demands made by Her Majesty's Government in the cases of the "Forte" and "Prince of Wales."

The Lords of the Admiralty will perceive from these papers that Her Majesty's Government will be prepared to consider any proposal made by Brazil for an arbitration in these cases, and they will also learn the steps which Her Majesty's Government would propose should be taken if it becomes necessary to have recourse to acts of reprisal.

Lord Russell would suggest that copies of these instructions should be communicated to Admiral Warren by the mail of the 8th November, for his information and guidance.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 61.

Earl Russell to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 4, 1862.

IN case the Brazilian Government refuse to comply with the demands of Her Majesty's Government, in either of the cases of the "Forte" and "Prince of Wales," and if it should be evident that further negotiation is useless, it has been determined to enforce those demands by reprisal against Brazil.

In this event, you will consult with Admiral Warren as to the best means of carrying out the objects that Her Majesty's Government have in view.

Her Majesty's Government are very reluctant to proceed to extreme measures against Brazil, except as a last resource, and any proposal on her part for arbitration on the questions at issue may be referred for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 62.

Earl Russell to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 8, 1862.

IN my despatch of the 4th instant I have informed you that if the Brazilian Government refuse the demands of Her Majesty's Government in the case of the "Forte" and "Prince of Wales," those demands will be enforced by reprisals, in case no proposal is made by Brazil for arbitration.

These reprisals might be in the shape of the seizure of some ship, or of some portion of public property belonging to Brazil, to be held as a security until the Brazilian Government did justice in the respective cases, and then restored to them uninjured. But as such a course might lead to collision between the two Governments, it may be preferable that the property seized should be private property. On this point, you will, however, consult with Admiral Warren, to whose discretion Her Majesty's Government will leave it to decide as to the steps to be taken, should it unfortunately be necessary to have recourse to reprisals.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 63.

Earl Russell to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 8, 1862.

I REFERRED to Her Majesty's Advocate-General your despatches of the 12th and 24th of September last, in which you report your further proceedings in the case of the "Prince of Wales," and I have now to state to you that Her Majesty's Government consider that the propositions which the Brazilian Government appears to allege by way of excuse, namely, that it is not to be considered responsible for probable murder and for certain robbery committed by its subjects upon helpless foreigners, because the coast, the scene of the outrage, is deserted and inhospitable, or because after long delays it has failed in discovering the culprits, are propositions wholly inadmissible by the Government whose subjects have been injured.

It is clear that both the wreck and the unfortunate crew have been plundered, and the presumptive evidence is strong that the persons whose missing bodies are said to have been buried, but whose graves nobody can show, were murdered. It is, moreover, impossible that the Justice of the Peace on the spot, Soares, should not have been cognizant of what took place; indeed, the presumption from the evidence is strong that he participated in the robbery.

A great parade is made of the sufficiency of the Brazilian Government to discharge its own functions of causing justice to be administered, and of its legitimate jealousy of the interference of the British naval officers; but the result is that the murderers and robbers are undetected, and the supine, if not guilty, Justice of the Peace remains unpunished.

Under these circumstances, Her Majesty's Government adhere to their opinion that they are entitled to demand a moderate indemnity in this case, and they do not see any necessity for modifying the instructions which you have already received with regard to it.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 64.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received December 3.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 6, 1862.

I HAVE now the honour to inclose a translation of a further note which I have received from the Marquis of Abrantes, being a rejoinder to mine of the 18th of September, of which I forwarded a copy in my despatch of September 24th.

I have thought it well now to terminate this correspondence, and I inclose a copy of my short note to his Excellency, in which I say that I abstain from replying to him, and that I forward his note to your Lordship.

This note of the Marquis is very easily answered in every point, and your Lordship may be glad to have my comments on its various points.

1. The Marquis persists that he never spoke in his note of August 16, of the dismissal of the two officials for culpable negligence, and says that, though he did not cite my exact words, he simply repeated my observation. In the note of the 16th August are these words: "Mr. Christie observes that in my last cited note he was not informed of the dismissal of the Sub-Delegate and of the Inspector, who proceeded in the discharge of their duties with culpable negligence." Further on, the Marquis returns

to the subject and says, "This is why I did not include in my last note either the circumstance of the dismissals of the Sub-Delegate and Inspector, &c," &c. There is not one word said in the note as to their not having been dismissed for culpable neglect of duty. Must not every one consider this a complete admission that they were dismissed for that reason? And if they were not dismissed for that reason, what merit was there as towards us in the dismissals, and how could the dismissals be free from injustice? I feel no doubt that the casuistry to which the Marquis has resorted for explaining away culpable neglect of duty has been in order to escape from the liability for compensation which ensued from admitting it.

2. After acknowledging that I had misunderstood a statement of the Marquis, as to the number of persons accused or imprisoned, which turned out be less than I had supposed, I made what I believe your Lordship will think a legitimate observation. It was this: "The satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government would hear of any new proceedings or discoveries would always be mingled with regret that more effectual measures were not earlier, or indeed immediately, taken; and the smaller the new results, the greater will be that regret." This remark is distorted by the Marquis, who twits me with sorrow at finding less guilt than I had expected, and says that the Brazilian Government rejoice instead of grieving, and would rejoice more if the number of guilty were still less. My sorrow, of course, was not because there was less guilt, but because, where guilt and crime exist, and are admitted even by the Brazilian Government, less had been discovered and punished.

3. The Marquis of Abrantes pretends to explain the contradiction which I had pointed out between two reasons he had given for not supplying me with earlier information on two subjects, by representing that the two reasons did not refer to both subjects, but one to one of them, and the other to the other. Such blind temerity of assertion is wonderful. It is only necessary to refer to the note of the 16th of August to see that both subjects are distinctly referred to in giving both the reasons. The Marquis wonders what can be my reason in insisting on this contradiction, which, if it existed, he thinks unimportant. It is surely important to show the little care and consideration with which a Brazilian Secretary of State excuses himself in a question of gravity.

4. In answer to my distinction that I had not consulted Senhor Taques about the visit of a man-of-war, with Captain Saumarez, to Rio Grande, but informed him of it, offering the Captain's services, if the Brazilian Government chose to accept them, the Marquis maintains that his offer of services was a consultation, and that the man-of-war and Captain Saumarez ought not to have proceeded till I had received an answer from Senhor Taques. The fact, however, is that I told Senhor Taques that I wrote to the Admiral to send a ship and an officer, and it was therefore clear that I had no intention of waiting for an answer. What Senhor Taques should have done, was to send instructions to the President of the Province, how to reply to the offer of assistance from the naval officer who was coming; and instructions from Rio might have reached the President of Rio Grande some time before the arrival of Captain Saumarez, who went from Monte Video after the receipt by the Admiral there of my despatch to him dated the same day as my note informing Senhor Taques. The neglect of not sending proper instructions to the President of the Province, it is now intended to cover with sophistry.

5. As regards the Justice of the Peace, Bento Soares, the Marquis now says that the denial of his guilt, and refusal to punish him, are founded on "the result of a process regularly instituted, during which all possible information was collected; and that the mere assertion of Mr. Vereker cannot prevail against such acts of the competent authority who proceeded in conformity with the law." This process must be the first inquiry held by the Delegate of Police, the imperfections and unsatisfactory character of which have been acknowledged in word and act by the Imperial Government. I extract from Mr. Vereker's despatch to this Legation of October 14, 1861, a short account of this inquiry: "An Indian, named Mariano, has been arrested as implicated in the robberies; he is stated to be an employé of Senhor Bento Soares; he has been a long time in jail, but it is said that no evidence can be obtained against him, the residents on the coast even disobeying the judicial orders to appear as witnesses. Two others, both in the employ of Soares, are stated to have fled the Republic of the Uruguay. Senhor Soares himself has been examined, but it is stated that nothing was elicited. I had requested to be present at the examination of this person, as well as at that of the Indian Mariano, but was not given the opportunity of being present." Thus Mr. Vereker, whose assertions will not now be listened to, was not examined or allowed to be present. The inquiry was a preliminary one, with a view to the indictment of those against whom sufficient *prima facie* evidence might be found. The result was the accu-

sation of three individuals. After a later inquiry, eight more have been accused. We do not know what evidence was brought forward against Soares; Mr. Vereker's certainly was not obtained. But apart from legal trial, Soares is a Justice of the Peace, amenable to the Government for his general conduct and reputation; and would any right-thinking and well-administered Government abstain from taking notice of such imputations against a Magistrate as have been made and well supported by Mr. Vereker, and from disgracing him if they were not satisfactorily answered?

Your Lordship may think we are in a position fairly to suggest to the Brazilian Government that, while the canvassing of a Judge in a suit pending before him against an Englishman by an high official in the Ministry of Justice is passed over without notice, Her Majesty's Government cannot be expected to assign great value to any legal proceedings in Brazil.

6. Your Lordship will judge from the report made by Admiral Warren on the suspicions of murder, how far the Marquis is justified in saying that it has been "demonstrated that the suspicion of the murder of some of the shipwrecked crew was totally unfounded."

7. Your Lordship will understand the allusion made to Mr. Vereker's fallibility on questions of assassination. It is, of course, known to the Brazilian Government, as it is known to your Lordship, that Mr. Vereker, when he lately came to Rio from Rio Grande on his way home, was in a state of nervous excitement, with a delusion about attempts to assassinate him; but it might be suggested to the Brazilian Government that Mr. Vereker's illness may have been caused by the troubles, labours, and anxieties which the "Prince of Wales" question had brought upon him, by virulent abuse of the Brazilian press, and by obstructions and ill-will of the Brazilian authorities.

8. The note ends with an indignant protest against a supposed demand of mine for copies *in extenso* of all the correspondence of the Imperial Government with the local authorities in this question. The Marquis of Abrantes had sent me a series of dates of despatches to the President of the Province, asserting that all those despatches had been sent spontaneously. Neither I nor any one else could form any judgment from the dates. I remarked that Her Majesty's Government were not satisfied that the Brazilian authorities had acted so promptly and spontaneously in this question as was asserted; but that, if all the correspondence *in extenso* were not previously communicated to Her Majesty's Government, I supposed that it would all be published according to custom in a future annual Report; and that if, after perusal of all the correspondence, and on a review of all the proceedings, Her Majesty's Government came to think they had been in any way unjust, injustice would be eagerly acknowledged. I think this remark does not threaten Brazilian independence, and need not rouse Brazilian indignation. If the correspondence is published in a future annual Report, it is to be hoped that the whole will appear, or that there will be a fair publication.

I have thus commented on all the important topics of this note, and it will be for your Lordship to judge whether it is desirable to make any reply to the Brazilian Government.

I leave it to your Lordship to appreciate the tone of the Marquis's note, which seems to me not very becoming.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 64.

The Marquis of Abrantes to Mr. Christie.

(Translation.)

Foreign Office, Rio de Janeiro, October 20, 1862.

WITH reference to the shipwreck of the barque "Prince of Wales," Mr. William Dougal Christie, &c., addressed to me the note dated the 18th ultimo, of which I acknowledge receipt, and the contents of which may be summed up in the refusal to accept the principal explanations, elucidations, and information which, as regards the occurrences proceeding from the said deplorable event, I have in the frankest manner, on the part of the Imperial Government, furnished to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation; and in supporting and insisting on the opinions and arguments previously produced by Mr. Christie in his correspondence on this subject.

The consciousness that the Imperial Government had loyally and anxiously fulfilled its duty, not less than the desire to satisfy the claims of Her Britannic Majesty's Legation in favour of the rights and just interests of its countrymen, led me not only to use the

greatest frankness and minuteness in the explaining to Mr. Christie the proceedings of the said Government, and of the subaltern authorities of the province of San Pedro do Sul, relative to the deplorable event in question, but also to take pains to remove from Mr. Christie's mind, in elucidating and explaining them, the apprehensions and the doubts which on this subject he has been putting forth in the divers notes which he has done me the honour to address to me.

Unhappily, however, I observe that from my efforts the hoped for result has not ensued; for, notwithstanding all the explanations, elucidations, and information so frankly and loyally furnished, Mr. Christie is not yet satisfied, and, so to say, persists in his original opinion.

Under such circumstances, seeing that the discussion would become interminable, and that no advantage would ensue from its continuance, in the brief reply which I am going to present to Mr. Christie's note, I will restrict myself to correcting the inaccuracy of some of his propositions; protesting, at the same time, against a new principle or doctrine which Mr. Christie appears to be desirous of establishing, and to which the Imperial Government cannot certainly assent.

The first inaccuracy which Mr. Christie will allow me to correct is that in which he says that in my note of the 16th of last August, in answering his query respecting the dismissal of two officials, without citing his own words, I spoke of the dismissal of the two officials referred to, who, in the discharge of their duties, proceeded with culpable negligence.

The unprejudiced reading of the part of my note to which Mr. Christie alludes is sufficient to demonstrate that I alleged nothing on my part to that effect, having confined myself to repeat, though not *ipsis verbis*, what Mr. Christie had said.

Consequently, the inference which Mr. Christie chose to draw from that pretended allegation of mine, that is, that I myself recognized the culpable neglect of those officials, is not exact.

In my said note of the 16th of August I announced to Mr. Christie that the inquiries had been concluded, the result being that eleven individuals were accused of the crime of robbery.

Mr. Christie understood from these words that, besides those eleven individuals, there were also the three of whom I spoke in my preceding notes, and others who were supposed to have taken refuge in the neighbouring State.

In order to remove the error under which Mr. Christie laboured, I stated to him, in my note of the 6th ultimo, that eleven was the number of the individuals accused as criminals, and that nothing else could be deduced from my note of the 16th of August.

Mr. Christie now admits his error, but thinks it convenient and fitting to add that it is to be regretted that the satisfaction which he felt at the accounts of new discoveries should be mingled with sorrow that the result fell so short of his expectations.

In this respect I have only to observe that I am by no means responsible for the regret experienced by Mr. Christie, who otherwise has exclusively to attribute it to himself for not having properly understood the words of my note of the 16th of August, which have in no way been since modified or altered.

And if Mr. Christie had the frankness to confess the sorrow which was caused him by the knowledge that there were not more than eleven accused of crime, the Imperial Government, on this point, is of a contrary opinion in wishing that that number was still less, or rather that, in so lamentable a case, there were not a single guilty person.

Mr. Christie again compares two passages in my note of the 16th of August, in order to detect me in contradiction in the explanation of the causes why certain information had not been earlier furnished to the British Legation; observing, on one side, that I did not give the information referred to because I did not possess it, and on the other because I did not wish to do so.

I am, therefore, in order to correct this inaccuracy, compelled to repeat that the two passages to which Mr. Christie alludes have reference to entirely different subjects.

In the first case, the information relative to those who are accused of robbery only reached the Imperial Government on the 14th of August; and in the second, I replied to Mr. Christie that the said Government was more desirous to answer the calls of justice than to acquire the good opinion of the British Government, although it greatly appreciated the same.

I, however, added that the Imperial Government would not hesitate in furnishing, at a suitable time, every information on the subject; or even when called for it by Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, if the Imperial Government should be in possession of the necessary data for that purpose.

It is not, therefore, possible for me to discover the object or end of this persistence

on Mr. Christie's part, unless by attributing it to a desire to detect me in a contradiction which really does not exist, and which has no importance whatever.

Mr. Christie says I was mistaken in supposing or declaring that he had consulted Counsellor Taques whether the Imperial Government would admit the visit of an officer of the English navy; and, as explaining his meaning, he now asserts that he only informed Senhor Taques of the fact, because he did not think it necessary to consult the Imperial Government respecting the visit of an officer or a ship of the English navy to any port of the empire.

Mr. Christie thus places the question upon an entirely new footing. The Imperial Government never had the pretension of being consulted, nor did it ever think that it should be, about the entrance of an English officer or ship into a port of the empire.

The question was as to the object of the presence of Captain Saumarez and of the vessels which accompanied him. Now, that object of official attendance at the inquiry, to which the authority of the country had to proceed, was undisguisedly revealed by Captain Saumarez himself, and by Consul Vereker, at their interviews with the President of the Province on the 6th and 7th of last April; and not even did Mr. Christie deny it but confirmed, because in his note of the 16th of July, referring to Captain Saumarez and the refusal, on the part of the Imperial Government, to admit his official intervention, he declared very expressly and positively, that the question could not be resolved in a satisfactory manner, without a complete inquiry made in the presence of a British officer.

Therefore, such being Mr. Christie's intention, it is clear that he ought to have consulted the Imperial Government, as he really did consult it, according to the evidence of his own words, "I offered the assistance of the naval officer to the Brazilian Government, if they chose to accept it."

It therefore appears clear that Mr. Christie ought to have awaited the answer of the Imperial Government before deciding upon the coming of the officer for the purpose pointed out.

If Captain Saumarez, or any other English officer, had presented himself without exhibiting pretensions of the nature in question, and which he doubtless derived from instructions received, no refusal would certainly have been made by the local authorities, nor would the Imperial Government have had any observation to offer.

If, however, such instructions existed, and Captain Saumarez was not received, the reason was because Mr. Christie had not waited for the reply of the Imperial Government.

Mr. Christie further states, that his Government is far from being convinced that the Imperial Government has acted spontaneously and promptly in this deplorable affair, and continues to maintain that the Imperial Government would have done nothing without the notes of the British Legation, the intervention of Mr. Vereker, and finally without the conferences between Mr. Christie and the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

If, happily, Mr. Christie has not denied that the despatch of the 26th of December 1861, to which this Ministry has twice called his attention, preceded the note of the British Legation of the 17th of March last, it is nevertheless certain that in generalising the question, he continues to maintain his favourite proposition, that only to himself and Mr. Vereker the glory appertains of all that the Imperial Government has done.

Recalling the facts, it is to be observed that Mr. Christie commenced by insinuating, in his note of the 14th of August, that the impulse given to the Imperial Government was due to the demands of the British Legation.

By my note of the 16th I proved the contrary, to which Mr. Christie subsequently replied in his note of the 22nd, presenting Mr. Vereker as the auxiliary mover.

Having also proved, by my note of the 6th ultimo, the groundlessness of this allegation, Mr. Christie now has recourse to his conferences with the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Thus, as it appears, it is pretended that the source must necessarily be English from which the measures taken in this distressing subject emanated, Mr. Christie not choosing to recognize any initiative of the Imperial Government.

But, it being certain that the facts already repeatedly explained, protest against such a conclusion, nothing more remains for me to say on this point.

Though Mr. Christie, in order to justify the distrust occasioned by the assertions of Counsellor Taques, admits that that gentleman had in fact declared that the Imperial Government, if culpable negligence in the proceedings of the Sub-Delegate or Inspector were to come to its knowledge, would duly punish them, he nevertheless quotes that Counsellor's words in which he says that the authorities had fulfilled their duty.

Mr. Christie, doubtless unintentionally, has inverted the assertions of Counsellor Taques, the result of which is, that the first prevails over the second, or rather that the latter is entirely neutralized.

In placing, however, those allegations in the order in which they were presented, what is seen is, that Counsellor Taques said, in the first place, that what was known was, that up to the moment in which he was writing to Mr. Christie (the 19th of April), the authorities had proceeded as they ought to have done, and he subsequently made the proper reserve for the event of its being ascertained, by further inquiries, that the said authorities had been remiss in the performance of their duties.

Consequently there is no plausible motive, in this proceeding, for authorizing the apprehensions of which Mr. Christie's mind is possessed.

Mr. Christie persists in the suspicion of the culpability of the Justice of the Peace, Bento Soares, based on the assertions of Mr. Vereker, which he has the goodness to refer to, and wonders that the said Justice has remained unpunished, whilst the Sub-Delegate and the Inspector were dismissed, the former for a trifling fault, which was of no consequence, and the latter for the simple convenience of preserving to the authority the necessary prestige, expecting from the Imperial Government under such circumstances something more than a simple denial.

To all that I have said on this subject in my previous notes I will only add, that the denial of the Government is founded on the results of a process regularly instituted, during which all possible information was collected; and that the mere assertion of Mr. Vereker cannot prevail against such acts of the competent authority, who proceeded therein in conformity with the law.

By the documents which accompanied my note of the 6th ultimo, it was demonstrated that the suspicion of the murder of some of the shipwrecked crew was totally unfounded.

Mr. Christie's reply to the same is, that the assertions of the inhabitants of Albardao and of the neighbouring places, as well as those of the Inspector of the Custom-house and of the Chief Guard's assistant, are not worthy of credit.

If that is the case, whom shall we seek in order to satisfy Mr. Christie, who does not confide in the testimony of the inhabitants of the place and of its neighbourhood, and further refuses that of the proper authorities?

Therefore, what can be the object, what the utility of fresh inquiries, upon which Mr. Christie so much insists? Who is to be employed in such inquiries, whose depositions are to be taken which may not be suspected by Mr. Christie?

From Mr. Christie's words, the inference is that Mr. Vereker's information alone deserves to be credited, whilst that gentleman's infallibility respecting the discovery of crimes, such as those in question, may without injustice, as Mr. Christie knows, be contested.

The principal propositions in Mr. Christie's note being thus corrected, I will conclude the present with the protest to which I alluded at the commencement.

Mr. Christie says that if the knowledge, *in extenso*, of the despatches of the Imperial Government should not be imparted to him, these despatches will be published in the next Report of this Ministry to the Legislative Body; and that if it should result from their perusal that the British Government has been unjust towards that of Brazil. Mr. Christie will be eager to acknowledge it.

If from the act of deference and courtesy on the part of the Imperial Government towards that of Her Britannic Majesty, in furnishing to its Representative at this Court a summary of the orders issued to the subaltern authorities of the Administration, in regard to the occurrences arising from the shipwreck of the barque "Prince of Wales," Mr. Christie pretends to derive the right of exacting that those orders be integrally brought to his knowledge, I must declare to Mr. Christie that the Imperial Government does not acknowledge such a right, and solemnly protests against it.

The Imperial Government will in due time account for its proceedings, not to Her Britannic Majesty's Government, or to Mr. Christie, but to the country, represented by the General Legislative Assembly, the only supreme arbiter of its acts.

However valuable and worthy of respect may be the opinion of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, or of any other Government, it certainly cannot be expected or pretended that it can condemn or absolve acts done within the limits of its own jurisdiction by an independent Government such as Brazil prides itself on being.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) MARQUIS OF ABRANTES.

Inclosure 2 in No 64.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Petropolis, October 22, 1862.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 20th instant, on the affair of the British barque "Prince of Wales." Agreeing with your Excellency that it is not desirable to prolong this correspondence, I abstain from replying. Your note will be forwarded to Her Majesty's Government, who are already in possession of all the preceding correspondence.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 65.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received December 3.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 6, 1862.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatches of October 8, instructing me as to demands to be made on the Brazilian Government in the questions of the vessel "Prince of Wales," and the assault on the officers of the "Forte."

After much reflection I have thought it right to defer addressing a note to the Brazilian Government, in the "Prince of Wales" question, until I know your Lordship's opinion on the further correspondence which I sent to you in my despatch of September 24th, or at any rate until I have received the further instructions which are promised by the next mail as to the conduct which I am to pursue in the event of a refusal to comply with the demands of Her Majesty's Government.

Your Lordship's demand on the Brazilian Government for compensation for the plunder of the "Prince of Wales" is based on "the culpable proceedings of their authorities, whose guilt they have at length discovered and admitted." Your Lordship will since have learnt that the Brazilian Government deny that the dismissed officials have been guilty of culpable neglect. I have my own opinion about this denial; but in a matter of such importance I think it right to be on the safe side, and to wait until I know what view is taken of it by the Government.

It occurs to me as possible that Her Majesty's Government may regard the later note of the Marquis of Abrantes as aggravating the wrong of the Brazilian Government.

It also forcibly occurs to me that your Lordship may wish to take a stronger tone, or perhaps even higher ground, on the question of the probabilities of murder of the crew, after you have read the cogent letter of Admiral Warren, which I also forwarded in my despatch of September 24. Your Lordship may know that at an early stage of this question I had some misgivings as to the charge of murder; but the Report of Admiral Warren, which your Lordship will by this time have read, seemed to me to be as near an approach as possible to positive demonstration of murder, on a comparison of circumstantial evidence, after the culpable neglect of the Brazilian authorities to hold an inquest immediately has brought us to the necessity of making the best of other means of inquiry.

Having determined, for these reasons, to postpone addressing the Brazilian Government on the "Prince of Wales" question, I have thought it better to postpone also sending in the note which your Lordship has ordered in the question of the "Forte," as until I have received the further promised instructions for the case of refusal, I cannot judge how the two questions may be mixed up in your instructions for action.

I have consulted with Admiral Warren, and learnt that postponement is in no way inconvenient to him with reference to his ships.

Under these circumstances I hope your Lordship will approve of my delay, which I think cannot in any respect be injurious.

I have received no communication whatever from the Marquis of Abrantes about the "Forte" case, and I expect none. Your Lordship will judge from the tone of his note on the "Prince of Wales" question transmitted in my preceding despatch, what chance there is of reparation in this matter unless from fear of force.

It is likely that I may receive by the steamer which leaves England at this time instructions from your Lordship with reference to my despatch of September 24, which

may relieve me from all doubt; but should that not be so, I shall not hesitate to wait another month, till I receive an answer to this despatch.

I take the precaution of asking Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon to telegraph to your Lordship to inform you that a despatch is on its way, which you may wish to answer by return steamer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 66.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received December 4.)

Sir,

Admiralty, December 3, 1862.

WITH reference to your letters of the 8th October and 4th November, respecting the steps to be taken should the Brazilian Government refuse to concede the demands made by Her Majesty's Government in the cases of the recent outrage on the officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte," and the plunder, in June 1861, of the wreck of the British ship "Prince of Wales," I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Earl Russell, an extract from a letter of Rear-Admiral Warren, dated the 7th instant, reporting that he has made arrangements for having a squadron in the neighbourhood of Rio de Janeiro by the first week of the present month in readiness to proceed to reprisals, if necessary, to obtain satisfaction from the Brazilian Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) C. PAGET.

Inclosure in No. 66.

Rear-Admiral Warren to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

"Madagascar," Rio de Janeiro, November 7, 1862.

HAVING, in compliance with their Lordships' letter of the 8th ultimo, placed myself in communication with Mr. Christie, Her Majesty's Minister, and ascertained his views on the subject of the instructions from Her Majesty's Government to proceed to reprisals, if necessary, to obtain satisfaction in the case of the outrage committed on the officers of the "Forte," and with regard to the plunder of the wreck of the British ship "Prince of Wales," I have accordingly made arrangements to have all the squadron in the neighbourhood of Rio by the first week in December, except two gun-boats, which I shall leave in the River Plate.

No. 67.

Mr. Stephens to Earl Russell.—(Received December 10.)

My Lord,

15, Dixon Street, Glasgow, December 9, 1862.

I FULLY expected, ere this, that some definite arrangement would have been made for the settling of the claims made by me on behalf of the wives and families of the murdered crew of the late barque "Prince of Wales," and also for the stores and cargo of that ship, plundered by the Brazilian authorities and subjects. I have again to call your Lordship's attention to this matter, as we are beset by the relatives of the deceased, who are very boisterous for compensation, and we consider very justly so, as you are aware that compensation has been made to foreigners by our Government even, in cases of plunder by the inhabitants. We delayed writing, expecting the last mail would have brought some settlement of this matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. P. STEPHENS.

No. 68.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received January 2, 1863.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, December 8, 1862.

ON receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 8th November, which is a reply to mine of the 24th September, on the question of the "Prince of Wales," I have immediately proceeded to act on your Lordship's previous instructions as to the demands to be made for the plunder of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales," and for the outrage on the officers of the "Forte." Copies of the two notes which I have addressed to the Marquis of Abrantes making these demands, and in which I have closely followed your Lordship's language and reasoning, will be forwarded by the next opportunity. I thought it well to write at the same time a third note, of which I inclose a copy, asking the Marquis to endeavour to give me answers by the 20th of this month, which leaves him a whole fortnight, and assuring him of the deep regret which will be felt by Her Majesty's Government if the answer in either case precludes all hope of amicably obtaining satisfaction.

By these last words I have thought I should forward your Lordship's wishes by suggesting that, even if the demands are not acceded to, an opening might be left for negotiation; and I have been anxious to suggest a time within which answers should be given, on account of the great dilatoriness of the Brazilian Government, and because it is not desirable to keep Her Majesty's vessels long in the harbour of Rio in the present season.

I have already had some conversation with Admiral Warren on the best course to be pursued should it be necessary to proceed to reprisals. Your Lordship may feel assured that full deference will be paid to your suggestion that private rather than public property should be seized. I observe your Lordship's desire to avoid proceeding to reprisals, if it is possible. Your Lordship may depend on my doing all that is in my power, consistently with what I believe to be due to our dignity and general interests, to avoid a recourse to the violent measures which your instructions authorize; but your Lordship will not have failed to perceive, from my late despatches, including several which will have reached you since the last instructions before me were penned, that the general proceedings of the Brazilian Government are most unsatisfactory, and show a great indisposition to do justice, and I anticipate much benefit for British interests in Brazil from the lesson which may now be administered, and may teach them that Her Majesty's Government, though patient and forbearing, will not in the end allow themselves to be trifled with.

Inclosure in No. 68.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Petropolis, December 5, 1862.

THE subjects of two other notes which I address to-day to your Excellency have been so long under the consideration of the Imperial Government that it cannot be thought unreasonable if I ask you to endeavour to furnish me with answers by the 20th of this month.

I need not say what pleasure it will give me to be enabled to inform Her Majesty's Government, by the next French steamer, that their wishes are complied with.

I would also assure your Excellency that it will cause the deepest regret to Her Majesty's Government if the answer to either note should preclude all hope of amicably obtaining satisfaction.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 69.

Earl Russell to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 5, 1863.

I APPROVE the steps taken by you, as reported in your despatch of the 8th ultimo, to give effect to the instructions which you have received regarding the cases of the "Forte" and "Prince of Wales."

I am, &c.

(Signed)

RUSSELL.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received January 21, 1863.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, December 15, 1862.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 8th instant, I have the honour to inclose copies of two notes which I addressed to the Marquis of Abrantes on the 5th, in obedience to your Lordship's instructions on the subjects of the ill-treatment of the officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte" and of the plunder of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales."

Your Lordship will see that in the note on the latter subject, which is mainly founded on your Lordship's despatch of the 8th of October, I have incorporated some of the observations made in your Lordship's later despatch of the 8th of November.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 70.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Petropolis, December 5, 1862.

HER Majesty's Government have instructed me to address your Excellency on the subject of the serious outrage committed on the 17th of June by a Brazilian police-guard on the officers of Her Majesty's "Forte," and the subsequent imprisonment of these officers attended with many circumstances of indignity; and I am much concerned to find myself, on the receipt of the instructions which it is now my duty to execute, without any answer from your Excellency to the note which I addressed to you on the 19th of August.

Her Majesty's Government have carefully considered the depositions and evidence taken in the case, and they can come to no other conclusion but that the version given by the three officers is true, and that the defence set up is unworthy of credit.

The officer's statement is as follows:—

Having obtained leave to go out on a pleasure excursion, they dined moderately at an hotel on the Tijuca hill, and were hurrying back to catch the omnibus for Rio when they passed the sentry of the guard-house at Tijuca. Mr. Clemenger the chaplain, who was in advance with Mr. Hornby, was approached by the sentry, and he had scarcely time to ask in Spanish what the sentry wanted, before he was struck by the butt of the sentry's musket, and stabbed at with his bayonet. The sentry at the same time called out the guard, who rushed upon the three officers and after much violence drove them into the guard-house; Lieutenant Pringle alone having made any resistance to the brutal violence that was used against them. On being lodged in the guard-house prison they asked to see the officer of the guard, who after the lapse of ten minutes or a quarter of an hour made his appearance for the first time. They immediately gave on paper their full names and rank, first direct to the officer, and secondly through an interpreter, and wrote to their Captain and to the British Consul to inform them of their position. But these letters it appears were withheld, and were not forwarded to their destination. Two of the party were confined for the night in a room called the "refectory," and the third in the prison, and on the following morning they were ignominiously marched on foot guarded by an escort (though they offered to pay for a conveyance) to the city Police Court at Rio, where they again wrote out their names and rank. They were then put into a filthy prison among criminals of the lowest class, the prison official admitting that he was aware that they were British officers; and after the lapse of two hours, and at the intercession of the British Consul, with whom they had managed to communicate, they were removed into a less dirty prison and subsequently to the police barracks, where at last they were civilly treated. At half-past 11 on the following morning they were released by a written order of the Chief of Police, no reasons being given for their imprisonment or for their liberation.

Such is shortly the story of these officers taken from their depositions, and as they have never varied in their statements, which are probable and consistent, and as they have expressed a strong desire to be confronted with the adverse witnesses, Her Majesty's Government are impressed with the conviction that their story is strictly true (as was indeed to be expected from their character as officers and gentlemen).

On the other hand, the version of the affair given by the Brazilian police is supported by evidence in which no confidence can be placed.

They state that the officers were drunk, and that they annoyed the passers-by on the road between the hotel and the guard-house; but it is remarkable that no passer-by has been produced to give evidence on this point, and that in the original charge preferred against them by the officer of the police-guard, of which a copy was given them, no mention was made of their being drunk, and no witnesses have been produced who had been annoyed by them on the road. The officer and soldiers of the guard have deposed as to the circumstances of the commencement of the affray between the British officers and the sentry, when by their own admission they were not present at the time; and it is to be observed that the Brazilian officer, more particularly, has deposed to all the circumstances of the struggle with the guard, while it is positively affirmed that he did not appear until ten minutes after the prisoners were lodged in the guard-house prison.

It is impossible to believe on other points evidence of a witness whose statement is so palpably untrue on this point, and Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that the officer of the Brazilian guard was perfectly aware of the nationality and rank of his prisoners.

Her Majesty's Government regard this matter in a serious light, and cannot submit to leave such an outrage unatoned for. I am accordingly instructed to demand from the Imperial Government:—

1. That the Ensign of the guard shall be dismissed from the service;
2. That the sentry who commenced the attack shall be adequately punished;
3. That an apology be made by the Brazilian Government for this outrage on British naval officers; and
4. That the Chief of Police, and the official who received the officers at the Rio police-station, be publicly censured.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 70.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Petropolis, December 5, 1862.

HER Majesty's Government have instructed me to address to your Excellency the following communication on the subject of the sad events which followed the wreck of the English barque "Prince of Wales."

This wreck, which probably occurred on the 7th or 8th of June of last year, was first heard of by Her Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande do Sul on the 13th of that month, through Senhor Bento Venancio Soares, a Magistrate of Albardao, who had stated in conversation that some bodies had been washed ashore near his house, but professed to have no knowledge of a wreck.

Subsequent inquiries, however, induced Her Majesty's Consul to suspect that a British ship had been wrecked, and he consequently left on the following day for the coast of Albardao, with the Municipal Judge, and a small Customs guard, and arrived at the house of Senhor Bento Soares, where they were received with evident reluctance by his daughter, her father being absent.

Early the following morning the party visited the scene of the wreck, and found the shore strewn with its relics, and with parts of the cargo, such as casks, barrels, seamen's trunks, &c., some of which had evidently been dashed to pieces on the beach, but others of which had as evidently been very recently broken open, and plundered of their contents. The linings of some of the trunks were quite dry, as if they had been safely brought on shore in boats. Ten bodies were stated to have been discovered, some of them a long way from the beach, but no money or watches were forthcoming. Property from the wreck, uninjured by water, was found in the house of Senhor Bento Soares.

No inquest having been held on the bodies by the Sub-Delegate of the District, Mr. Vereker proposed to view them; but this was strongly objected to in a most suspicious manner by the Inspector of the District, who was met with on the shore accompanied by an armed force.

Mr. Vereker then returned to Rio Grande, and applied for assistance to convey the ten bodies thither for inquest and burial. The assistance was given, though at the time Mr. Vereker had to defray all expenses; but only four of the bodies arrived at Rio Grande.

Inquests were subsequently held on the bodies at Rio Grande, and on those at Albardao, at the latter place by Sub-Delegate Gonçalves, now dismissed, assisted by the

brother-in-law of Senhor Soares, Senhor Pereira de Sousa, who is said to have headed a party of plunderers of the wreck. One body only was disinterred; the others were found unburied, and in an advanced state of decomposition. The verdict on all was in effect, "found drowned," though there were most suspicious circumstances attending the discovery of some of them, stripped of their clothes, and far beyond the reach of the tide at high water.

After repeated and earnest applications from Mr. Vereker for a searching inquiry, he at length heard, on the 18th of September, that one man had been convicted of being in possession of property stolen from the wreck. The President of the Province stated at the same time that the chief culprits had fled, and he pleaded the great difficulty of inducing the inhabitants to give any evidence at all in the case. Later in December, the same reasons were pleaded for the unsuccessful result of a further inquiry, and although it has been admitted from the first that the wreck was plundered, it was not until August of this year, fourteen months after the wreck occurred, that your Excellency stated that two of the officials, whose conduct had been previously praised, had been dismissed, and that eleven persons were accused of plundering the wreck. But Senhor Bento Soares is declared to be free from all accusation, and has not been put on trial. It seems to Her Majesty's Government impossible that Soares should not have been cognizant of what took place; indeed, the presumption from the evidence is strong that he participated in the robbery.

Your Excellency has been good enough to say that the Imperial Government have quite satisfied themselves that none of the crew of the vessel were murdered. Her Majesty's Government are by no means satisfied of this. The presumptive evidence is strong that the persons whose missing bodies are said to have been buried, but whose graves nobody can show, were murdered. But this question of murder is one which could only have been entirely set at rest by an immediate inquest on all the bodies of the crew, and by a prompt and searching investigation.

Her Majesty's Government regard the excuses made by your Excellency in order to evade responsibility, that the coast where these outrages have been committed by Brazilian subjects, on helpless foreigners, is desert and inhospitable, and that after long delays the Imperial Government has failed in discovering the culprits,—as totally inadmissible by the Government whose subjects have been injured.

The time is come when Her Majesty's Government must ask compensation for the plundering of the wreck and of the bodies; and they must look for this compensation to the Imperial Government as being responsible for the losses occasioned by the culpable proceedings of their authorities.

I am, therefore, instructed to demand from the Imperial Government compensation for the losses that have been occasioned to the owner of the "Prince of Wales," by the wholesale plunder of the wreck, and also for the robberies of property of the crew.

The owner claims :—

				£	s.	d.
For cargo and stores	..	..	..	5,500	0	0
For freight	..	..	..	1,025	19	0
				6,525	19	0

Her Majesty's Government do not commit themselves to the amount thus claimed; and it will be incumbent on the owner to produce a properly certified estimate of the value of the cargo and stores. But when the Imperial Government shall have admitted the principle, Her Majesty's Government are prepared to accept a fair arbitration on the question as to the actual amount of compensation to be made, and they will also leave to the arbiter or arbiters to determine the amount of the compensation to be made to the relatives of the people on board, whose bodies were stripped and plundered.

In conclusion, I am instructed to state that Her Majesty's Government, having regard to the extraordinary delay and procrastination of the Brazilian authorities in this grave matter, must insist that any such arbitration shall be set on foot without loss of time, and shall be conducted with all possible speed to an issue.

I avail, &c:
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received January 21, 1863.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, December 24, 1862.

I AM unable, as I had hoped, to report by this opportunity definitively on the questions of the "Prince of Wales" and the officers of the "Forte."

Having asked the Marquis of Abrantes to endeavour to answer me by the 20th, I arrived in Rio on the morning of that day, and not finding answers waiting for me, I sent Mr. Brodie to the Secretary of the Marquis, to ask when I might expect answers. Mr. Brodie was informed by the Secretary that the answer in the case of the "Forte" was not quite ready, a report which was expected from the Ministry of Justice not having reached the Marquis; and that, further, there was to be a meeting of the Cabinet that evening (Saturday, the 20th), when the answers would be finally settled, and that I might count on receiving them on the morning of Monday, the 22nd. The Secretary entered into some further explanations about the notes, from which it was to be inferred that the two questions were to be discussed, and that in neither case would all the satisfaction which had been demanded be given.

On Monday morning, the 22nd, I received the note of which I inclose a translation, which is dated the 18th, and which simply informed me that the Government of the Emperor had determined to charge their Minister in London to confer with the British Cabinet on the two questions.

If any reliance is to be placed on what was told to Mr. Brodie by the Secretary of the Marquis, on the 20th, it is to be inferred that the Cabinet changed their plan of proceeding that evening. But how can the date of the 18th, given to the note which has been sent me, be pleasantly accounted for?

The inclosed note mentions no additional information to be presented to Her Majesty's Government, and gives no reason for referring the question to London. I have regarded the note as a mere trick to gain time, and stave off a difficulty, and I determined at once not to admit this answer.

I therefore sought the Marquis of Abrantes, and took Mr. Brodie with me. I stated to the Marquis that I had come to make an important communication, and as conversations were sometimes misunderstood and misremembered, I thought he might agree with me in wishing that each should be attended by a witness. He therefore called in his Private Secretary, and the following conversation took place, in the presence of Mr. Brodie and that gentleman:—

I told the Marquis that I had received his reply with great regret. I pointed out to him that there was no mention of any additional information to be presented to Her Majesty's Government, on either question. He said that there was something new to be presented on the "Prince of Wales" question, and that the Government intended to make a new explanation of the facts. I replied that a new explanation did not necessarily imply new matter, and that they might communicate to me their new information, and let me judge whether it would justify me in departing from my instructions. I asked him what he meant by the verbal explanations which he and the Minister of Justice had given me, and to which he said that I had paid no attention, adding that I was not aware of any verbal explanations at all. He said that he referred to my conversation with him and Senhor Sinimbu, when I saw one and the other, in order to press an inquiry by the police, and he enumerated the occasions. I told him that all these occasions were before the facts had been elicited, and become subjects of discussion; I repeated that neither he nor Senhor Sinimbu had given me a single verbal explanation since the communication of the report of the Chief of Police, and of the depositions; and I reminded him that, when I called on him by appointment, to discuss the question, after examining all the documents, he declared himself unprepared to discuss it, and did not propose another conference. All this the Marquis was obliged to admit, and your Lordship will see that the reference in the note to verbal explanations is a disingenuous artifice. I further informed the Marquis that I could not admit that the depositions had been communicated to me privately ("particularmente"), as he said in his note; that I had a right to them, and considered that they had been communicated to me officially, as they ought to have been. I also objected to his stating that I had given him a "peremptory" term for answering; I had suggested that he should endeavour to give me answers by the 20th, and in fact, his note dated the 18th was not sent to me till the 22nd.

Having thus criticised the note, I told the Marquis that my instructions were, "if satisfaction was not given in these two cases, to address myself to the English Admiral. I said I regarded his note as quite unsatisfactory. I begged him to believe that I now

came on my own responsibility to tell him of the consequences of a persistence in refusal of satisfaction, and hoped that he and his colleagues would take the communication in the same spirit in which I made it. My desire was not to menace them (I had purposely abstained from coming near him until I got his answer), but impress them with the gravity of the occasion, which they probably had not figured to themselves, and to do what I could to prevent disagreeable events and preserve friendly relations between the two Governments. I mentioned that the Admiral, who was waiting here with his squadron beyond the usual period was beginning to be uneasy, about the heat and the health of the crews, and I gave this as a reason for my not being able to give them any long time for further deliberation. Having asked the Marquis whether he could let me have an answer by the next evening (23rd) as to whether the Brazilian Government would continue to treat with me as to the satisfaction demanded, and finding that he was disposed to make difficulties about the shortness of time, I told him that I would wait till after the departure of the French steamer, and give him till the morning of Saturday, the 27th, hoping that the Brazilian Government would regard this as an additional proof of moderation and deference. The Marquis promised me an answer by noon of the 27th. I took occasion then to point out to him strongly that the Brazilian Government were greatly mistaken if they supposed that, in referring the matter to London, they would be appealing from me to Her Majesty's Government. The appeal would be to Her Majesty's Government from themselves. Her Majesty's Government had before them all the information communicated to me, had judged the question for themselves, and framed the demands.

In leaving the Marquis, I expressed my hope that the step which I had taken would lead to a more agreeable settlement of these questions than I thought likely when I first read his note, and he replied in taking my hand that he did not doubt it ("je ne m'en doute pas").

I saw him again the next morning, when I added that I hoped he and his colleagues would make the best use of the interval for deliberating on the demands made by Her Majesty's Government, and that, having already assigned Saturday for an answer as to whether they would continue to treat with me, I should be unable to wait longer than the evening of the following Monday, the 29th, for satisfaction on the two questions, and if by that time, unfortunately, I should not have satisfactory answers on the main questions I should be obliged, in accordance with my instructions, to address myself to the Admiral. The Marquis replied that on the evening of Saturday the whole question would be discussed by the Cabinet, and that he intended to ask me to have a conference with him on the Sunday. I hope, therefore, I am right in concluding that the intention of referring the questions to London was immediately abandoned.

I took care not to give the Marquis any idea of the nature of the measures which the Admiral would take if he were obliged to act.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 72.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received February 4.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, January 8, 1863.

I REPORTED to your Lordship in my despatch of December 24, that I had given the Brazilian Government till the 29th of last month to come to a satisfactory arrangement on the questions of the "Prince of Wales" and the officers of the "Forte," before calling on Admiral Warren to act. On the 29th I received a reply which, in my judgment, rendered it incumbent on me to call on Admiral Warren to make reprisals according to his instructions. Reprisals have been made. His mode of proceeding, deliberately adopted in concert with me for reasons which I will explain later, has caused a virtual blockade of the port of Rio for Brazilian vessels going out, from the 31st ultimo to the 6th of this month. From the morning of the 31st, the Brazilian Government have known that I was ready to entertain for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government a proposal for referring both questions to arbitration, and ready in fact to agree to such terms for cessation of the reprisals and release of the prizes as they at last enabled me to agree to in the night of the 5th. There has been no collision with the navy or forts of Brazil. The reprisals were made without employing force. There has been no disturbance of the public peace, though on the 5th there was imminent danger of riots on the following day, the 6th, which was a holiday; and it is fortunate that the Brazilian

Government came to terms on the 5th. The Brazilian Government have agreed to pay whatever sum Her Majesty's Government may demand as just compensation in the case of the "Prince of Wales," preferring this to a proposal of arbitration which I recommended to them; and in the case of the officers of the "Forte," they make a proposal of arbitration which Her Majesty's Government are free to accept or decline.

I will now relate in detail the course of my proceedings.

I called on the Marquis of Abrantes, by previous arrangement, on the morning of the 27th, and had a conference of several hours. He had caused to be prepared two long Memoranda, which were read by his Secretary; and we discussed them as he read. These Memoranda, as your Lordship will see, contain little that is new, and nothing new of importance; and have for their end to justify entirely the proceedings of the Brazilian Government and authorities in the two questions. The Marquis conceded nothing, and made no proposal. I took the Memoranda away with me, and promised to tell the Marquis in the evening, when it was agreed that he should call on me, whether I could withdraw any part of the demands. When he came to me in the evening, I told him that I could see nothing in the Memoranda to justify me in making any material change in the demands: but that I was ready to take on myself to accept, instead of a public censure on the Chief of Police, an explanation, which could not hurt his feelings.

I have been satisfied that the remark of the Chief of Police, whom I know, imputing intoxication to the officers, was not intended offensively; and that all that he meant was that he concluded, from the nature of the charge, that the officers had acted foolishly, as young officers may sometimes do, under the influence of wine; and I hope your Lordship will approve of the modification of the demands as regards the Chief of Police, for I am convinced that it is just.

Again the Marquis of Abrantes made no admission, or concession, or proposal; and this led me to think that the Brazilian Government intended to accord our demands.

The next morning the Private Secretary of the Marquis of Abrantes came to me at an early hour before I was out of bed, and waited to see me. He came, he told me, from the Marquis to ascertain whether he had correctly understood what I had said the evening before about the Chief of Police, and about making no further modification of the demands. I repeated what I had said to the Marquis.

The next evening (the 29th), I received the reply of the Brazilian Government, which ended as follows:—

"In the name, then, of the Government of His Majesty the Emperor, as regards the claim relative to the wreck of the 'Prince of Wales,' as soon as Mr. Christie, disregarding and despising all the considerations and proofs alleged by the Imperial Government to justify their conduct and that of the Brazilian authorities, demands a pecuniary indemnity for the losses and injuries of that shipwreck, I have the pleasure to state to him,—

"1st. That the Government of His Majesty the Emperor cannot and should not accede to the principle of responsibility which is applied, and against which it protests aloud and positively;

"2nd. That it refuses peremptorily to consent to take part in the proposed adjustment of losses suffered by the owners of the wrecked vessel, and the indemnification demanded for the supposed assassinations;

3rd. Finally, that, if it should be obliged to yield to force in this pecuniary question, it will pay, protesting, however, against the violence which is done, the sum which Mr. Christie or the Government of Her Britannic Majesty may wish.

"And as regards the question relative to the officers of the frigate 'Forte,' I have to declare to Mr. Christie that the Imperial Government, conscious that the police authorities, as has been proved, did not fall in the attentions due to the British navy in their proceedings towards three individuals dressed in plain clothes, who refused to give their names and ranks, it equally cannot and should not satisfy the demands of the ultimatum; and however much it may deplore the calamities which may result from this determination, it judges better and more honourable to endure them than to sacrifice the honour and dignity of the nation."

After some deliberation I felt that I had no alternative but to call on the Admiral to proceed to execute his instructions as to reprisals.

The mode of making reprisals had been the subject of much consultation between myself and Admiral Warren, principally with the view of doing everything possible to avoid a collision between the two Governments. With this view Admiral Warren had resolved to take no ships, public or private, in the port of Rio, where he might have been fired upon in the first moment of anger by the Brazilian men-of-war or from the forts, but to send out two steamers to intercept Brazilian vessels out of sight of land. As, if it had

been known beforehand what these steamers went out for, they might have received some obstruction from the forts in going out, it was judged best to send them out the evening before my announcement of reprisals was made to the Brazilian Government. The "Stromboli" went out in the evening of the 30th, the "Curlew" followed her at daylight next morning, and by 9 o'clock that morning my note announcing the Admiral's intentions was in the hands of the Marquis of Abrantes. The Admiral remained in harbour with his flag-ship the "Forte," and kept with him the "Satellite" and the "Dotterel," a despatch boat.

The news of the intended reprisals, as may be supposed, caused immediately great excitement in Rio, and especially in the mercantile community. I proceeded at an early hour to the British Consulate, and remained there all day, to be in readiness to receive British merchants and others, and give every information in my power. I am glad to be able to say that the British community, though taken quite by surprise, and, besides sharing in the general uneasiness, having special cause of alarm for themselves, have generally shown a most praiseworthy spirit, and abstained from every word or deed which might in any way thwart my proceedings under your Lordship's instructions. The Brazilians naturally made efforts to induce British merchants to remonstrate against measures from which they might probably for a time suffer. Some few who at first thought of taking some such step quickly yielded to good advice.

Senhor Sinimbu, the Minister of Commerce, proceeded in the course of the day to the Exchange, and there addressed a crowded and excited audience of merchants. He told the Brazilians that, before and above all, the Government would guard the honour of the nation. He said that the Government would take on itself the indemnification of all losses which "the Brazilian commerce" might suffer from the threatened reprisals. Addressing the English he begged them to believe that they were regarded as friends, pursuing a calling beneficial to Brazil, and that the Government would see to their safety. He then proceeded to say that the Government had received what he chose to call my ultimatum only that morning, and that it had been known the day before in the commercial community. This certainly was most untrue, and I have given him the opportunity, which he has not used, of mentioning any one who knew it. In the inclosed correspondence your Lordship will see a note which I addressed to the Marquis of Abrantes, denying Senhor Sinimbu's statement. It was of the utmost importance to keep the plan of reprisals a secret, and no one knew of them till that day, except myself and Mr. Brodie, Admiral Warren and his Secretary, and the two Commanders who had gone out with their orders.

At an early hour in the forenoon of that day December 31st, a suggestion was made to the Marquis of Abrantes, and to the Marquis of Olinda, the President of the Council, by the Baron de Maná, one of the greatest capitalists and most spirited and patriotic citizens of Brazil, who is at the same time largely connected with British commerce and a friend to Great Britain, to propose to me to refer the questions in dispute to arbitration. I had every reason to believe that this suggestion was well received, and that the result of a Cabinet Council to be held that evening presided over by His Majesty the Emperor would be a note to me making such a proposal, and at the same time offering to pay at once under protest whatever sum might be demanded in the case of the "Prince of Wales." At 11 o'clock that night I received a note quite different from what I had been led to expect, and from what I have good reason to know was proposed by the Marquis of Abrantes, a note informing me that the Government of the Emperor would appeal to the British Government.

In my reply to this note, dated the 1st January, I expressed my grief at this resolution, as it would necessarily prevent a release of the prizes till I could receive instructions from your Lordship, and declared my readiness to entertain for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government any reasonable proposal, such as one of arbitration.

This note succeeded in recalling for the second time the Brazilian Government from their resolute on of appealing direct to Her Majesty's Government.

In the meantime the newspapers had been generally busy in trying to fix the odium of our proceedings on me personally, and in representing that Her Majesty's Government would disavow them; and the official journal had also held this language. There was a general excitement against me. I was threatened with assassination. The Brazilian Government, without any application direct or indirect from me, and without any communication with me, had placed a strong guard near my residence to protect me. I wrote a note on the morning of the 3rd to the Marquis of Abrantes protesting against the language of the official journal, to which I received no answer till yesterday the 7th. Under these circumstances I thought it right to decline to go to the house of the Marquis of Abrantes for a proposed conference, and to ask him either to come or to send his Secretary to me;

and I did not hesitate to let him and others know, that as long as the official newspaper was permitted without reproof or contradiction to fix these proceedings personally on me, I would not, unless absolutely compelled by a refusal of the Marquis to come himself or send his Secretary to me, expose myself to insult or injury by going out to the house of a Minister who, under the circumstances, would be in a great measure responsible for any such disagreeable incident.

The Marquis pleading illness and fatigue, sent his Secretary to me on the evening of the 3rd, and after a long conference I drew up the inclosed memorandum as a basis of arrangement:—

1. The Brazilian Government had declared their readiness to pay immediately under protest whatever sum I or Her Majesty's Government might demand in the affair of the "Prince of Wales." I voluntarily proposed that they should oblige themselves to pay whatever Her Majesty's Government might demand. I was not able myself to fix the sum, and could only have named a sum large enough to cover all contingencies, which would have been invidious, and I wished to show perfect confidence in the honour of the Brazilian Government on this point. I also urged their proposing to refer this question, as well as that of the officers of the "Forte," to arbitration; and their refusal of arbitration naturally deprives their protest of force, and precludes any reproach against Her Majesty's Government for fixing, as they are asked to do, the amount of compensation.

2. The question of the officers of the "Forte" to be referred to arbitration; and I advised the Brazilian Government to enable me confidentially to inform your Lordship of some arbiters who would satisfy them, that Her Majesty's Government might at once have some choice, and also with a view to the possibility of refusal of any one proposed arbiter.

3. I asked for an explicit declaration as to the readiness of the Brazilian Government to indemnify any subjects of third Governments who, as owners of cargo, might suffer from our seizures of Brazilian vessels. The Brazilian Minister of Commerce had declared in his speech at the Exchange, as reported in the official journal, that the Government would take on themselves to indemnify all losses sustained by the Brazilian commerce, and, as this phrase certainly did not include English merchants, it would probably not be understood as including more than Brazilians.

4. I insisted on a publication, without delay, of all the correspondence on both questions prior to the 5th December, the Brazilian Government having already, since the reprisals began, published the correspondence from that day. Without the anterior correspondence, in which the two Brazilian Memoranda are answered by anticipation, it is impossible for any one to understand fully or judge fairly the questions.

5. I undertook on such conditions to stop reprisals and restore prizes.

The Brazilian Cabinet determined to call together the Council of State to consider these terms of arrangement. The Council of State deliberated two days, the 4th and the 5th, His Majesty the Emperor presiding on the second day.

Meanwhile, in the afternoon of the 4th, Her Majesty's ship "Stromboli" re-entered the harbour, to report the Admiral the prizes which had been taken, and which had been left in charge of the "Curlew." I much lamented that the slowness of the Brazilian Government had prevented an arrangement before the arrival of the news of the captures. The details of the captures appeared next morning in the papers, and, as was to be expected, caused great excitement. The excitement in Rio that day was such as has never been seen since the execution of the provisions of the "Aberdeen Act" in Brazilian ports when Sir James Hudson was Minister. There was serious fear of riots in the centre of the city, and the British Consulate was surrounded for some time by a menacing mob.

Senhor Sinimbu, the Minister of Commerce, appeared on the scene and did much to calm and restrain the populace, excited by demagogues. His Majesty the Emperor traversed the city, and addressed crowds in different parts. The speeches of His Majesty and of Senhor Sinimbu were principally directed to assuring the populace that the honour of Brazil was safe. This was the tone best suited to please and quiet the Brazilian mind. It was generally reported and believed that the Council of State, which concluded its deliberations that forenoon, had resolved to reject all terms of arrangement, and that I was to receive my passports.

The Council of State, however, had decided quite the other way; and at 3 o'clock that afternoon the Secretary of the Marquis of Abrantes came to me with a draft of a note to be addressed to me. This proposed note began with offering me a personal satisfaction by declaring that the Imperial Government, in proposing to appeal from me to the British Cabinet had not intended to impugn my justice or honour, and proceeded in very satisfactory terms to do what had been proposed in the Memorandum drawn up in my conference with the Secretary on the 3rd, viz., pay under protest what might be

demand in the case of the "Prince of Wales," and propose to Her Majesty's Government to refer the question of the officers of the "Forte" to arbitration. I made some suggestions on points of language and form, and the Secretary carried away with him the draft, telling me that it would be submitted by the Marquis to his colleagues, but that no essential change would be made in it, and that I might expect to receive the note at 10 o'clock that evening. At the appointed time I received a note which, though it may be said that nothing essential in the terms of arrangement was changed, was entirely different in form and tone from the draft which I had seen, and contained many changes of expression and additions which required careful consideration. After reading the note, I told M. Calogeras, the Private Secretary, that this note would be accepted by me as it stood if necessary, and that I should not let the proposed arrangement go off, but that without some changes it would be impossible for me to abstain from a controversial reply. I am happy to say that all the changes which I suggested were ultimately made, but this involved a delay till the next day.

I will call your Lordship's attention to two passages which remain in the note of the 5th, which were inserted after I had seen the draft of the Marquis of Abrantes. The first is the condition attached to the arbitration in the "Forte" question. The words accurately translated are:—"It being understood that the said arbiter will have to decide, not with regard to the duty of the Imperial Government to cause the laws of its country to be executed, but only whether in the way those laws were applied in the case of the officers of the 'Forte' there was any offence offered to the British navy." I have taken special pains to ascertain the meaning of this condition; and it is nothing more than a formal reservation of the right of the Imperial Government to execute independently the laws of Brazil. The other passage inserted was the concluding paragraph, in which it is stated that, if this proposal of arbitration is rejected by Her Majesty's Government, the Government of Brazil returns to its formerly announced resolution of submitting to all calamities rather than yield.

The passage of the draft acquitting me of injustice was omitted in the note as ultimately settled; but a statement of the same sort has been since made, in a note dated the 6th, which your Lordship will see in the inclosed correspondence.

At last, then, after many delays and difficulties, at mid-day on the 6th the arrangement was finally made, and the two notes dated the 5th were exchanged. I was at the same time promised that I should receive a separate note, declaring the intention of the Imperial Government to indemnify owners of cargoes of third nations. I cannot say that this promise has been promptly or ingenuously fulfilled; but the quick release of the prizes renders this point of little importance.

The Brazilian Government had already published the correspondence up to the note of the Marquis of Abrantes of the 2nd, agreeing to treat, and it was promised me that the remainder of the correspondence, including the two notes of the 5th, should be published next morning, and the arrangement which had been made thus be explained and made known to the public.

The news having been circulated on the 6th that an arrangement had been come to which would stop reprisals and cause immediate release of the prizes, allayed excitement, and prevented any disturbances such as had been expected that day, a general holiday.

The stoppage of the reprisals was necessarily a great relief to trade, for no Brazilian vessel had been able to leave the port while the reprisals were proceeding.

In the course of the afternoon the Admiral despatched Her Majesty's ship "Stromboli," with orders to release the prizes, and then proceed at full speed to Pernambuco, in order to be there if possible on the first arrival of the news of recent events, which might cause excitement and render British residents uneasy; and with the same view he despatched at the same time Her Majesty's ship "Satellite" to Bahia, and Her Majesty's gun-boat "Dotterel," to Rio Grande do Sul.

On the morning of the 7th the correspondence was not published as had been promised. Instead of the promised publication there appeared in the official journal and another newspaper a false explanation, bearing an official appearance, of the non-publication; it being stated that the publication was delayed until the condition of the actual release of the prizes was fulfilled. This had not been a condition for publication; it was a condition precedent for sending orders to London to pay the money in the case of the "Prince of Wales," and for taking any necessary steps with a view to the proposed arbitration. In other journals articles appeared distorting and misrepresenting the arrangement made, and describing it as a great triumph of the Brazilian Government, and a great humiliation of the English Legation. These articles showed a knowledge of the terms of the arrangement and of incidents of the negotiation which could only have been derived from some member of the Brazilian Government.

I deeply regret to have to state to your Lordship the cause and the effect of this unworthy and mischievous proceeding.

The Secretary of the Marquis of Abrantes, whom indeed he had sent to come to me at an early hour, to express the astonishment and indignation of the Marquis at the non-publication, and at the explanation given in the official journal, to assure me that he had given orders for the publication, and that it had been stopped without his knowledge, and to promise that the publication should be made without fail the next day, and the statement of the official journal contradicted. I have learnt, beyond a doubt, that the publication was stopped by Senhor Sinimbú, the Minister of Public Works, who held a conference that evening with the editors of the newspapers, and gave them the cue for the very objectionable articles which appeared the next morning. The object of course, was to anticipate the publication of the correspondence by misstatements intended to create the impression that the Brazilian Government had gained a victory, and thus to prevent public clamour against the Ministry. It has filled me with astonishment to learn that Senhor Sinimbú should have so acted. Two of the editors with whom he conferred, and the misdirected praises of whose journals he obtained, are two demagogues, and have been most vehement opponents of the Government, Senhor Ottoni and Senhor Saldanha Marina, and the object was to gain their support on this national question. I am quite satisfied that the Marquis of Abrantes was an entire stranger to this improper proceeding, and that his indignation was not feigned.

It is rumoured that Senhor Sinimbú has been severely called to account by his colleagues, and that he may be obliged to retire from the Government. It is, indeed, difficult to understand how a member of the Cabinet, who has thus conducted himself, can be permitted or wish to remain.

The effect of Senhor Sinimbú's proceeding was a revival in the course of the day (the 7th) of the excitement, specially directed against the English. In the course of the afternoon, Mr. Hollocombe, the Acting Consul, came to me attended by two English gentlemen, to represent to me the renewal of fears of disturbances in the city. Similar intelligence had already reached me through others. The Brazilians were going about noisily representing the English as humbled, and taunting and insulting them. I took the Consul with me immediately to the house of the Marquis of Abrantes. I told his Excellency that there was again excitement and alarm in the city, and that the English Consul was there to tell him the state of things, and the fears of the English merchants. I told him that this had come from the articles in that morning's papers, and that I knew, and that he knew, what had been Senhor Sinimbú's proceedings. I added that I declared to him officially that for any injuries that might now arise to English persons and property, I should consider Senhor Sinimbú, the Minister of Commerce, responsible, and that as he had the tone to that morning's articles representing England as humbled, it would be in his power influence these same journals to discontinue that strain. The Marquis of Abrantes made no reply to these remarks beyond assuring me that he would take immediate steps for the maintenance of public tranquillity and order. Such steps, I know, were immediately taken.

This morning, a part of the correspondence has been published, including the two notes of the 5th; and although I have had still to complain that some of the notes have not appeared, enough has been published to make known the truth. The city has to-day been perfectly tranquil.

I have received in the course of to-day a note, of which a translation is inclosed, informing me that the Government of the Emperor propose His Majesty the King of Belgium as arbitrator. I understand that all the documents belonging to the question are to be forwarded by this steamer to the Brazilian Minister at Brussels. The Imperial Government seem to take for granted that His Majesty will agree to act as arbiter, and have not followed my advice to submit several names to Her Majesty's Government.

I will not conclude this report without saying that I have had most effective assistance from Admiral Warren, in these proceedings. I trust that our conduct will obtain the approval of Her Majesty's Government.

Inclosure 1 in No. 72.

The Marquis of Abrantes to Mr. Christie.

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rio de Janeiro,
December 29, 1862.*

(Translation.)

I HAVE before me the three notes which, under the date of the 5th instant, Mr. William Dougal Christie, &c., addressed to me.

In two of these notes Mr. Christie, persisting in the claims which he had brought

forward by reason of the wreck of the barque "Prince of Wales," and of the disagreeable occurrence which took place at Tijuca between police authorities and some officers of the "Forte" frigate, called in the name of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty upon that of His Majesty the Emperor for a pecuniary indemnity for the losses and damages arising from that shipwreck, and satisfaction for the disrespectful manner in which the said officers were treated.

In the third note Mr. Christie confined himself to the fixing of a peremptory term, within which the Imperial Government was to solve the demands contained in the other two.

The Imperial Government having duly taken into consideration Mr. Christie's three notes, and appreciating the terms in which they are conceived, on the one part discovered that in consequence of the discussion kept up between this Ministry and Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, respecting the claim for the shipwreck of the barque "Prince of Wales," further efforts to convince Mr. Christie of the justice with which the said Government contested that claim would be useless, or to arrive in this capital at a satisfactory opinion, so desirable towards the maintenance of the good relations existing between the two countries, and for the dignity of the respective Governments; and it having observed, on the other hand, that Mr. Christie, merely on the basis of the contestation which, in his note of the 19th of August last, he presented against the inquiry made by the police of the city, which was privately confided to him frankly, and disregarding the verbal explanations given to him not only by myself, but principally by the Minister of Justice, considered the question as concluded, and communicated the resolution taken by his Government in this respect.

Under such circumstances it appeared to the Government of His Majesty the Emperor that the only alternative which remained for its adoption, in consonance with the sentiments of moderation and benevolence which it entertains towards the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, and the confidence with which it is inspired in the principles of justice and rectitude of that Government, was that of instructing the Brazilian Minister in London to come to an express understanding with the British Cabinet on the subject of the two claims to which I have referred.

The Imperial Government having taken that resolution, I hastened to communicate the same to Mr. Christie in the note which I had the honour to address to him under the date of the 18th instant.

Mr. Christie did not think it convenient to reply in writing to this note of mine. On the 22nd, at about half-past 3 o'clock in the afternoon, he had the goodness to call at the house in which I reside in order to confer verbally with me.

After exchanging some words about the claims in question, Mr. Christie informed me that he had just received from his Government the most peremptory instructions respecting these claims.

That not only they imposed on him the duty of making the exactions contained in his three notes of the 5th instant, but also of giving the necessary instructions to the Admiral commanding-in-chief the English station in this port, for the case in which said exactions should not promptly be complied with.

That what he was saying did not signify a menace, but the communication of the instructions received.

That his Government having ordered him to carry immediately into execution the demands contained in his three notes of the 5th instant, or to have recourse to the Admiral, no more time was left for instructing the Brazilian Minister in London to treat of the subjects in question; the only means for examining the prosecution of the said demands being those of resuming the respective discussions with Mr. Christie himself.

Mr. Christie will doubtless remember that I asked him to address to me a note in the sense of the verbal communication that he had just made to me; he will likewise remember his answering me that he did not consider convenient the discussion of the said communication in a note, for which reason he resolved to make it verbally; and then insisted on a day and hour being fixed for the reception of an answer.

On the morning of the 23rd Mr. Christie again called upon me, for the purpose of telling me that he was going that day to Petropolis, whence he would return on Saturday the 27th, to receive my answer.

I told him that I would be ready to give him one, and that I hoped to offer him on that occasion a verbal conference and fresh explanations and elucidations, which might perhaps induce him to reconsider the questions.

To this Mr. Christie agreed, observing to me, however, at once that he would receive my definitive answer on Monday the 29th, because, in conformity with his instructions, he was not permitted to wait any longer.

In fact, the conference agreed to took place on Saturday, the 27th.

According to promise, I tendered to Mr. Christie fresh explanations and more developed elucidations about both the pending questions, and presented him with a memorandum relative to each of these questions, accompanied by all the confirming documents of the allegations and arguments with which Mr. Christie's propositions were contested, as well as regards the one as the other claim.

Unhappily this effort was unfruitful, and Mr. Christie finally declared that he persisted in his demands, as primitively made.

It therefore becomes my duty to give Mr. Christie this day the solution of the Imperial Government relative to the claims in question.

With a view, however, to exhaust all conciliatory means, and to render evident not only the purity of the intentions of the Imperial Government, but also the perfect consciousness which it has of the rectitude and regularity of its proceedings, I will still have recourse to the circumspection and discernment of Mr. Christie in sending to him copies of the Memorandums which I produced to him in the conference of Saturday, and to which I now again pressingly claim his matured attention.

In those papers facts are explained in the clearest manner, and each of the observations which they suggested to Mr. Christie are appreciated, which is as much as to say that the Imperial Government has frankly and loyally employed all possible efforts towards showing the causelessness of these claims, and consequently the necessary propriety, for the existing good understanding between the two countries, and the most important relations which bind Great Britain to Brazil, that the demands of Mr. Christie in his notes be reconsidered.

And the Imperial Government makes this last appeal not only in the interest, which it considers most important, of avoiding the incalculable evils which perchance might result from a disturbance of the friendly relations existing between the two countries, as well as from the conviction that the claims in question, even admitting to a certain degree the apprehensions and appreciations, relative thereto, which have been manifested by the Legation of Her Britannic Majesty, do not call for the dénouement insisted upon by Mr. Christie.

As Mr. Christie perfectly knows, such recourses are only had in extreme cases, when no honourable means remain for the attainment of a pacific solution.

That hypothesis certainly does not exist in regard to either of the pending questions ; it is difficult, if not impossible, to demonstrate that the Imperial Government throughout the whole of its proceedings has, in any way, showed repugnance or opposition to the amicable conclusion of both claims.

If from special circumstances which it would be useless to enumerate, and which are inseparable from a new country, which occupies a vast extent of territory, a great part of which has still to be populated, in which communications are difficult, and consequently the action of the Government is tardy ; some delay at times occur in the solution of claims and questions which arise, and not always does the examination of them produce so complete and satisfactory a result as it were to be wished ; but certainly that ought not to create ill will, and still less a disrespect or offence, particularly when no interest, nor basis exists to justify or authorize such a supposition.

If this be the case, it is not less true that a nation, although comparatively weak in relation to the other, cannot be indifferent to acts which lead to the humiliation of its sovereignty and of its dignity, and which do not meet with any explanation or countenance in reason and in universal justice.

In order to guard against such a position, to prevent the immense evils from which it must necessarily be expected, and finally in order to refuse on its part all responsibility it is that the Government of His Majesty the Emperor addresses these considerations to Mr. Christie.

In the meanwhile, if, contrary to what the Imperial Government has a right to expect from so powerful and enlightened a nation as the British, Mr. Christie should persist in his demands, if in spite of all that is brought forward and all the irrefragable proofs which have been tendered, he should think that he ought to carry into effect the announced ultimatum of his Government, in having recourse for that purpose to the Admiral commanding Her Britannic Majesty's naval forces assembled in this port, it will only remain, in such a conjuncture, to the Government of His Majesty the Emperor, above all saving the national dignity, to protest most solemnly against the unusual principles which it is pretended to establish, and being intimately convinced of the perfect justice of its cause, but which it cannot make valid, to submit to the conditions which may be imposed upon it by main force, and to appeal to the enlightened and impartial judgment of the civilized nations.

In the name, therefore, of the Government of His Majesty the Emperor, as regards the claim concerning the shipwreck of the barque "Prince of Wales," since Mr. Christie not allowing and disregarding all the considerations and proofs alleged on the part of the Imperial Government and justification of its proceedings, and those of the subaltern authorities, insists upon a pecuniary indemnification for the losses and damages of that shipwreck, I have the honour to declare to him :—

1. That the Government of His Majesty the Emperor neither can nor ought to accede to the principle of responsibility attributed to it, and against which it loudly and categorically protests.

2. That it peremptorily refuses to consent or intervene in the proposed liquidation of the losses suffered by the owners of the shipwrecked barque, and in the demanded indemnification for the supposed assassinations.

3. Finally that, if obliged to yield to force in this pecuniary question, it will pay, under protest also against the violence that may be offered to it, any sum that Mr. Christie or the Government of Her Britannic Majesty may choose to demand.

As to the question concerning the officers of the "Forte" frigate, I have to declare to Mr. Christie that the Imperial Government, being convinced that the authorities of police, as has been shown, were not wanting in the regard due to the British navy in their proceedings towards three individuals dressed in plain clothes, who refused to give their names and calling, cannot nor ought equally to satisfy the demands of the ultimatum; and however much it deplores the evils which may result from this determination, it considers that it is more honourable to suffer them than to sacrifice the national decorum and dignity.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) THE MARQUIS OF ABRANTES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 72.

Memorandum on the Question of the "Prince of Wales."

(Translation.)

THE shipwreck of this vessel took place on the coast of Albardao, which comprises more than forty leagues, frequented by ill-disposed men, in the greatest part wanderers, and intimately connected with the natives of the Oriental State who inhabit the neighbourhood of the Chuy as far as Castillos, and are known by the name of "Montoneros." These men commonly flock to the shores of the sea whenever they nourish hopes of plunder, and thus is explained the general cognizance of the fact, without the possibility of coming to the knowledge of who are its authors. (Report of the 10th of May, 1862, of the Chief of Police to the President of the province of Rio Grande do Sul.)

This simple description of the place is sufficient to show the great difficulties attending the discovery of the depredators of goods saved.

Nobody can be accused without proofs, or at least indications.

But the few inhabitants strewed over this vast desert, in order not to be discovered and punished, used to convey into the interior everything which they could pilfer; this is what, with reason, the President of the province supposed. (Official Report of the 3rd of July, 1861.)

The Delegates of Police of Rio Grande declares that, having sent three times to command the attendance of divers persons of Albardao in neighbouring places at Rio Grande, all of them deny themselves, do not appear to the Officer of Justice, feign illness; some who may have a knowledge of something have gone away to the Oriental State, others, who are conscious of their criminality, have definitively fled to that State. (The Delegate's Official Report to the President of the 18th of September, 1861.)

It became necessary to order the appearance, under subpœna, of those persons who were supposed to be informed of the facts. (Order of the Chief of Police to the Delegate, annexed to the despatch of the President of the 10th of December, 1861.) It was necessary to order the examination of witnesses at a distance of fifty leagues in the district of Victoria. (The President's despatch of the 30th of May, 1862.)

Being informed of these and other difficulties of the same nature, which are gathered from the voluminous documents of this process, the Imperial Government instructed the President to employ all possible means and assiduity; authorized extraordinary expenses; counselled that if the action of the officers of justice should not be sufficient, endeavours should be made for arriving at the knowledge of facts through confidential information. (Despatch of the 26th December, 1861.) These orders were many times repeated.

Evidently, however great might be the efforts of the Imperial Government and of the local authorities, it was an affair of time and perseverance.

The Inspector of the quarter, when he learnt on the 10th of June, 1861, of the shipwreck, as will further on be shown, went on the 11th, with five National Guards, to do police duty on the beach.

An inevitable delay was occasioned on account of the distances.

On the 14th the Municipal Judge, accompanied by the English Consul, the assistant of the Chief Guard of the Custom-house, two guards, and four soldiers, searched the houses of the nearest neighbours of the place, and discovered nothing. (The President's despatch of the 3rd of July, 1861.)

The Consul himself acknowledged the zeal of the Magistrate in his proceedings. (Official letter of the 20th of June, 1861.)

Besides this first inquiry others were instituted by the Sub-Delegate of Tahim twice ; another time by the Municipal Judge ; and, finally, by the Chief of Police. (His report of the 10th of May, 1862.)

A process had been instituted relative to the plundering of the goods saved, but from the difficulties pointed out, and others which may be easily comprehended, the process could not be prosecuted with the desirable speed. (Letter of the Delegate to the President of the 18th September, 1861.)

It became necessary to institute a new process for the crime of robbery, in consequence of the Municipal Judge having ranked the crime committed as a robbery from which there is no recourse *ex officio*, and, even if there were, no recourse could be had from the qualification of the crime. (The President's letter to the Delegate of Police of the 14th of April, and of the President to the Government of the 14th of May, 1862, No. 6.)

The President finally made a communication that a fresh process had been instituted against eleven individuals, and that endeavours were being made to send descriptions of those supposed to have taken refuge in the Oriental State. At the commencement there were only three, but by means of the continued efforts of the authority eight more had been discovered. (Despatch of the 31st of July, 1862.)

Since then researches have been continued, and the result of the documents is that neither the Imperial Government nor the local authorities have neglected to promote, by all kinds of means, the most complete solution of this painful and difficult question.

Such are, briefly, the motives of the delay of which the British Minister complained.

From the tenour of the despatches and reports on this subject, not the least doubt remains that not only the Imperial Government, but also the local authorities, have acted most zealously, and that they cannot neither be responsible for the delay nor for the want of a better result, because such difficulties were, and still are, in the nature of things.

By order of the Imperial Government the local authorities employed force, money, persuasive and confidential means, and that which is of more value in the case in question, they had the necessary prudence and perseverance in order to, as it were, glean the truth where, when, and how it might present itself.

By the demand of the intervention of an officer of the British navy the success of the researches would have been rather obstructed than facilitated, from the obvious reason that dependent as they were for obtaining a knowledge of facts from confidential information and on the good-will of those who might guide the authority in his searches, all of them would have kept silence, without committing themselves in the presence of an officer of English ships. (Despatch of the President of the 10th of April, 1862, and the papers annexed thereto.)

The Inspector of the quarter and the sub-Delegate of Tahim were dismissed. To the former the Chief of Police attributed the delay of the communication of the fact from the day of the shipwreck (7th to 8th of June) until the 11th (letter of the 10th of May, 1862) ; but, as we shall further on see, he was only informed of it on the 10th, and therefore, if he was dismissed, it was for having thought that he might set free one of the indicated persons, who afterwards escaped to the Oriental State. The said Delegate was dismissed in consequence of some censures addressed to him on the occasion of his being interrogated ; censures that do not prove his guilt or remissness, but which might blemish the prestige which an authority ought to enjoy. (Report of the Chief of Police of the 10th of May, 1862, and its annexes.)

These dismissals prove the delicacy of the conduct of the Imperial Government in this question, but by no means can they be considered as proofs of the culpability of the local authorities as facilitating crime or interrupting the action of justice. The release of the run away will only retard the execution of the sentence which will condemn him, because his extradition is going to be demanded from the neighbouring State.

Consul Vereker alleged suspicions of robbery by the Judge of the Peace of Albardao, Bento Venancio Soares; he said that on the occasion of the inquiry he saw in that person's house, on the 14th of June, 1861, two Bibles and two empty cases belonging to the shipwrecked. (Mr. Christie's note of the 18th of September, 1862.) Neither the Consul nor the Municipal Judge made any mention of the circumstances alluded to in their Official Reports of the quoted inquiry. (Official Letters of the 20th and 23rd June, 1861.) And divers inquiries having been set on foot for the discovery of the depredators, without any result of proof against Soares, upon what grounds could the authority put him on his trial?

It is true that a certain carpenter, Joaquim, was indicated, who resided in the house of the said Soares, and he was absent. (Interrogatory by the Sub-Delegate of Tahim, annexed to the President's despatch of the 14th of May, 1862.) Perhaps in this manner the existence of some of the articles saved in the house of Soares may be explained.

As to Soares not having communicated the shipwreck, and having only mentioned it on the 12th in the city of Rio Grande, and the appearance of some corpses in the vicinity of his house (letter of the Consul of the 20th of June, 1861), even supposing that the said Soares had knowledge of this and other facts connected with the shipwreck previously to that day, it was not his duty to communicate the same, because the cognizance of this affair was the competency of the Inspector of the quarter and of the respective Sub-Delegate.

It therefore appears that no responsibility whatever is attached to the Imperial Government, either for its own acts or those of the local authorities, from the period in which they were informed of the shipwreck.

Can the same Government, peradventure, be made responsible for what has happened before it received information of the occurrence; and can the perpetration of the crime be attributed to the negligence of the Government, or the carelessness or connivance of the authorities?

Assuredly it cannot be pretended that such crimes can be prohibited on the immense and desert shores of Brazil, when even now-a-days they are committed in the most civilized countries of Europe; with this difference, that in these the territory is much less extensive and the population much more dense, so that it is much easier to prevent crime and to discover the footsteps of the criminals.

Mr. Vereker says (his despatch of the 20th of June, 1861), that the shipwreck is supposed to have taken place on the 7th or 8th of June; that on the 9th the news was spread over the district; that only on the 12th the Judge of the Peace mentioned in Rio Grande that corpses had been found on the sea beach; and that only on the 14th official information reached Rio Grande from the Sub-Delegate of Tahim, who resides at a distance from that city.

Hence, the British Consul observes that the Judge of the Peace ought to have communicated the fact on the 9th; that the Inspector of the quarter, who declared that he went on the 11th to the place of the shipwreck, ought to have immediately made an official Report to the Sub-Delegate of Tahim; that the latter, finally, ought to have directly ordered an inquest on the bodies, and have gone to the spot, in order to protect the property.

In the first place, it is to be kept in mind that the Judge of the Peace not being a competent authority, it was not his business to make this communication.

As to the Inspector and Sub-Delegate, it appears that from the distances in which they were from the place of the shipwreck, as well as from the city of Rio Grande, they could not sooner make this communication.

In fact, the Inspector resides above six leagues from the place of the disaster, and the Sub-Delegate as far off, or further. These authorities only became aware of the shipwreck after they had been informed of it by the inhabitants of the spot. It was only on the 11th that the Inspector, from information received on the eve, went to the beach, and on that day sent word to the Sub-Delegate, who communicated this occurrence to the Delegate of Rio Grande. (Report of the Delegate of the 18th September, 1861.) The Chief of Police says, that the Sub-Delegate being sick he sent for the Inspector, who reported to him the shipwreck; and that the Inspector remained keeping guard over the goods saved, according to the order he received from the Sub-Delegate. (Official letter of the 10th of May, 1862.)

Thus, therefore, from the 7th or the 8th, on which it is supposed, as Mr. Vereker says, that the shipwreck took place, until the 10th, on which day the police authority for the first time was informed of it, two or three days elapsed during which the depredators had plenty of time for the perpetration of the crime.

If the news spread over the district on the 9th, it is not to be wondered at that

the Inspector, who resides at a distance of six leagues, should only have arrived on the following day.

And, as the Inspector only received information on the 10th, it is evident that he is not responsible for the delay of proper measures previously to that day.

At what hour was the Inspector informed of the shipwreck on the 10th? That is not stated, but as he had to travel six leagues over a sandy ground, it is conceivable that he went on the 11th to the place of that occurrence.

He immediately sent to inform the Sub-Delegate of it—a still further journey of eight leagues.

The Sub-Delegate being sick, sent for him—still eight leagues.

The Inspector arrives at the house of the Sub-Delegate—still eight leagues.

And, finally, the Sub-Delegate reports officially to the Delegate at Rio Grande—still sixteen leagues.

In the whole, 46 leagues and 3,000 fathoms, or 6,840 metres each to be traversed in three days (the 11th, 12th, and 13th), over the worst ground, without counting the duration of the interviews, the adoption of measures, &c. ; about 80 French leagues.

It appears that it cannot be said that any delay occurred, even although it should be pretended that in travelling all day and night, and in killing the animals, one day might perhaps have been gained.

The property did not remain abandoned from the time when the competent authority took cognizance of the fact, because the beach was guarded by the police from the 11th to the 14th, on which day the Commission of Inquiry arrived ; and it still continued to be watched by order of the Municipal Judge, the Inspector being always accompanied by five National Guards. (Report of the Municipal Judge of the 18th of September, 1861.) (The Interrogatory of Faustino José Silveira, annexed to the Report of the Chief of Police of the 10th of May, 1862.)

All censure, therefore, of the Inspector and of the Sub-Delegate, in relation to the delay of the communication and the abandonment of the property, thus vanishes. It is not to be inferred, simply from the fact of the Inspector's being a relative of Bento Venancio Soares, that he connived at the crime, although Soares might have been a party to it ; which, however, has not been proved.

In regard to the suspicions of murders, I have to state as follows :—

The delay which took place in the communicating the shipwreck, the aspect of the beach, the distances in which some of the bodies were found,—all this caused the Consul to suspect that part of the crew had been murdered. (Despatch of the 20th of June, 1861.)

Mr. Vereker having demanded the conveyance to Rio Grande of the corpses which had been disinterred, the Chief of Police immediately sent proper orders to the Delegate for the necessary proceedings towards the discovery whether any murders had been effected, and who were the authors of them ; and, at the same time, the Delegate wrote officially in the same sense to the Sub-Delegate of Tahim. (Despatch of the 27th of June, 1861, of the Chief of Police to the President.)

One body having been found interred, and three unburied, they were immediately sent to the city of Rio Grande, and an inquest was held on them. The doctor, José de Pontes Franca, declared that the said dead bodies showed no signs of any external wounds, nor indication of violence ; and that death had been caused by asphyxia from submersion. (Report of the Chief of Police of the 1st of July, 1861.)

The President reiterated his orders that fresh researches were to be made ; but these produced no result. (Despatch of the 11th of July, 1861.)

The President still ordered the Municipal Judge to verify the censured facts. This Judge, who, at the same time as the Consul, had the opportunity of observing the appearance of the sea-shore, the distances in which the bodies were lying, and other circumstances of the subject, stated that the Consul had only been led by inferences founded on the bad character of the inhabitants of the place, and not by any positive fact, and his persuasion that Mr. Vereker was unjust in his supposition. (Despatch of the Chief of Police of the 10th of May, 1862.)

Finally, a fresh inquiry was instituted by the Delegate, Dr. Camarim, and, like the preceding, it produced no greater elucidations. (Despatch of the Chief of Police of the 10th of May, 1862.)

The Consul having been invited to attend this last inquiry, he answered the Delegate that on that occasion he could not accompany him on the coast of Albardao, and if his presence were necessary he requested him to let him know ; and added, " that it was not just to attribute to him principally the suspicion of murders ; that not only he had never expressed such an opinion, but those suspicions were entertained by those

persons who were acquainted with all the circumstances." (Despatch of the 22nd of April, 1862.)

The Chief of Police interrogated all the persons residing at Albardao, as well as the inhabitants of the proximities of the place of the disaster, and others who flocked thither on that occasion, besides the Inspector of the Customs and the Chief Guard's assistant. Every one of them denied the homicides. (Report of the Chief of Police of the 10th of May, 1862.)

It therefore appearing:—

That no one except the Consul had thought of murders, and that Mr. Vereker himself repudiates the paternity of that idea;

That, of the four bodies found at Albardao and examined at Rio Grande, not one of them presented any external injury or indication of violence, and that with respect to them the cause of death had been asphyxia from submersion;

That the argument deduced from the distances at which some bodies had been found, had been completely refuted by the captain of a frigate, José Pereira Pinto, who, after analysing the circumstances, declared that it was sufficient to reflect upon the force of the current and of the wind, upon the difference of weight between that of a human body, of a case of merchandize, or of a log of timber, to comprehend that it was impossible that all could have come to the same place (Information annexed to the President's despatch of the 14th of May, 1862);

That, notwithstanding the five inquiries successively conducted by divers public functionaries, it has not been possible to meet with the burial-places of any of the shipwrecked persons, which is naturally explained by the peculiar circumstances of the formation of the soil and of its frequent mutability; it being known that from the Torres to Castillos in the Oriental State the coast is composed of loose sand, which the winds daily displace, and which, in the course of an hour, raise very high ridges, and in the next remove them to other places. (Despatch of the President of the 10th of April, 1862.)

For these reasons, the Imperial Government concludes that the suspicion of some of the shipwrecked having been murdered is unfounded.

The British Minister, in his note of the 25th of October, 1861, says:—

"When the Municipal Judge, the Consul, and others of their attendants arrived, they found the Inspector with a force superior to their own; and, therefore, the Municipal Judge did not dare to assent to the request of the Consul that the place might be shown them where the bodies of the shipwrecked were buried."

This fact is not deduced either from the Report of the Municipal Judge, in which he gave an account of the inquiry, nor from that of Mr. Vereker himself, presented on the same occasion. (Despatches of the 23rd of June, and 20th of the same month in 1861.) Whilst, from the tenor of Mr. Vereker's despatch, it appears evident that there was no reason why he should have omitted mention of the fact indicated, and in that same despatch.

It besides appears that the Inspector's disposable force for police duty on the beach was not superior to the number of persons and the force which accompanied the Municipal Judge. His party consisted in the Consul, the Chief Guard's assistant, two Guards, and four soldiers—eight persons. The Inspector had only five National Guards under his command. (Deposition of Faustino José Silveira, annexed to the President's despatch of the 14th of May, 1862.)

However great may be the confidence reposed by Mr. Christie in his Consul, it would appear that the allegations and opinions, more or less well-founded, of only one person, cannot counterbalance the complete absence of proofs, or the acts of all the authorities, and the affirmations of a great number of witnesses who have deposed in this question.

It is not unusual that generic suspicions of prepossession should arise from the instinct of self-preservation, and even from the most noble sentiment of compassion excited by the misfortunes of others, without, however, the existence of any positive fact which may justify such suspicions. And even not long since, Mr. Vereker exemplified this truth in thinking that his life was in imminent danger; a fact which it was afterwards ascertained had not the least foundation. (Notes of Mr. Christie of the 14th and 21st of August, 1862.)

In Mr. Christie's last note of the 5th instant, Mr. Christie demands, in the name of his Government, a compensation for the plunder of the goods saved, and of the bodies.

It appears that the Imperial Government, neither for its own acts, nor from the proceedings of the local authorities, ought to be answerable for the disasters occasioned

by the shipwreck of the barque "Prince of Wales," and therefore the demand of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty cannot be maintained. But were it even maintainable, it appears that it could not be easily settled.

In the first place, for which bodies does his Excellency demand compensation?

It cannot certainly be for the four which were taken to the city of Rio Grande, and respecting which it was proved that the cause of their deaths had been asphyxiation from submersion. Nor can it be for the six who were lost on the sand hills of Albardao, because it is not known to what souls they belonged, nor are there any means of distinguishing them from those who were swallowed by the waves.

As to the pilferage of the goods saved, if the demand of the British Government were justifiable, it would appear that the Imperial Government could only be responsible for species, quantity and value of the plundered articles. But it does not appear how many, and what they were. The sea assuredly kept its share of them.

Mr. Christie claims payment for the whole of the cargo, and even for the freight of the vessel.

In this manner the effects of the shipwreck remain entirely neutralized.

If this principle be admitted, people will be found to assume the responsibility, not only for the crimes of depredators, but also for the imbecility of captains, and even for the fury of the winds and waves. The Imperial Government will apply a remedy to all these disasters; and the Insurance Companies will not have a better auxiliary than the coast of Albardao, or than any other desert coast of the empire.

December 27, 1862.

Inclosure 3 in No. 72.

Memorandum on the Question relative to the Officers of the "Forte" Frigate.

(Translation.)

HER Britannic Majesty's Legation having complained of the proceeding attributed to the Commandant and soldiers of the detachment at Tijuca towards some officers of the English frigate "Forte," the Imperial Government sought for information about the facts of the case, through the means of the competent authorities, in order to be enabled to form a sure judgment respecting the claim, and to resolve according to what might be just, because nobody should be condemned without proofs, and these cannot be substituted by the simple allegations of complainants.

The fact took place in a lonesome situation: it became therefore necessary to put questions to the Commandant and soldiers of this detachment, who in the exercise of their duties practised that fact; premising that the information given by those agents of the public force was confirmed by two persons completely foreign to the question, to wit, Messrs. Bennett and Müller.

Mr. Christie wished to have copies of these inquiries, which were frankly confided to him in the originals. His Excellency soon afterwards transmitted to the Government the contradiction of those inquiries by Messieurs de Chaplain Clemenger, Lieutenant Pringle, and Midshipman Hornby.

Certainly Mr. Christie cannot but acknowledge that however honourable the characters of those persons may be, their allegations are not sufficient for the formation of proofs in a court of justice, although there might be no other proofs to the contrary, because they are produced by the complainants themselves.

It would be contrary to all principles, and extremely dangerous, to condemn the accused from mere allegations of the accuser.

If Her Britannic Majesty's Legation places its faith on what the officers of her navy said, there is no reason whatever why the Imperial Government should refuse that of its Agents.

There is, however, the circumstance of the depositions of the Brazilian Agents being corroborated by two completely disinterested witnesses, which upon unprejudiced minds must shed some light over this difficult question, and lead the impartial magistrate to believe it more probable that the truth is on the side that presents declarations of persons absolutely foreign to the fact inquired into.

Mr. Christie complains that no solution has yet been given to his note of the 19th of August. What could the Imperial Government in truth do? There were no more witnesses to be questioned, all possible proofs had been collected, and against these what fresh matter was presented was the contestations of the complainants.

The English officers expressed a desire to be confronted with the German, Müller,

whose deposition they rejected. But the Chief of Police reports that, after the 2nd of July, those officers did not appear again at the Department under his charge, even voluntarily leaving off attendance at the interrogatories of Messrs. Bennett and Müller.

That, however, would not prevent the availing of that recourse again, if therefrom some mere elucidation of the question could be obtained.

Having made these preliminary observations upon the generality of the process, it is proper to reply to the divers topics of Mr. Christie's note of the 19th of August last.

He observes that of the four witnesses who circumstantially relate the commencement of the question, only one of them could from his own knowledge, because the others could only repeat what they heard from him, whose testimony they faithfully reproduced.

It is, however, proper for Mr. Christie to consider that, besides the Commandant of the detachment, four soldiers were interrogated. It is true that the beginning of the conflict was with the sentinel, but it is also true that he immediately called out the guard, and that the other soldiers who were in the guard-house having directly come out all of them, the Commandant and the soldiers were present at the struggle which followed.

All the depositions are concordant that the sentry was at his post; that the complaining officers were the aggressors; that even before reaching the detachment they had been troublesome to a patrol which they met on the road, and that in front of the quarters of the detachment they had stopped a passer-by, who was going up the hill on horseback.

The evident result of these declarations is, that the soldiers and their respective Commandant were present at the conflict, and that their depositions refer to facts of which they were eye-witnesses.

They are simple facts, and it is no wonder that there should be unanimity in the statements of them made by the witnesses in their generality, although showing different versions respecting secondary circumstances, as is always the case on similar occasions, as, for example, about the precise moment of the conflict, the noise made by the officers in the guard-house, and other facts of minor importance.

Mr. Christie further says, "The English officers declared that the Commandant only appeared ten minutes after their imprisonment, and that consequently his deposition is not worthy of being credited; because having declared that which he had not previously seen, it is to be supposed that he had declared what he had not afterwards seen; that he was absent when the disturbance began. It is presumable that he himself would not confess a breach of his duty."

Not only the declarations of the Commandant, but also those of the soldiers of the detachment, which are all unanimous in stating that, upon the calling of the sentry to arms, the Commandant came out and pacified the officers until they were locked up, are contradicted by the English officers.

Let Mr. Christie take note that there was no reason why the Commandant, if he had been absent, should not have said so; because he might have absented himself at ten minutes' distance from the guard-house upon any other service, without any blame being imputed to him on this account as a dereliction of his duties.

Mr. Christie regrets that the Chief of Police, in his Report to the Minister of Justice, under the date of the 5th of July, should have explained, by the imputation of inebriety, the release of the English officers, and this without any inquiry or justification; and he adds, that that imputation is not mentioned in the Report of the Commandant of the detachment at Tijuca, to the Sub-Delegate of Engenho Velho, the only one that the Chief of Police possessed on that occasion.

This magistrate declared that he had ordered the release of the officers, finding that there was no matter for a process, because the acts of the said officers were merely the result of the state in which they then were.

Let Mr. Christie allow me to observe to him that the Chief of Police, although he had not yet commenced a formal inquiry, was already aware that when the conflict took place the officers had just had a pleasure party, after which there is almost always a display of excitement and hilarity, which even happens to the most serious persons, principally to youths, without producing any injury to their character; and therefore it was to this animation that the Chief of Police attributed the proceedings of the officers, being without any reason to suppose that, under other circumstances, they would choose to despise the public force, and much less seriously to attack it.

He therefore thought that there was no matter for the institution of a process, and ordered the release of the officers; the inquiry which subsequently took place was more for the purpose of verifying the proceedings of the agents of the public force, than for that of establishing the culpability of the said officers.

Certainly the circumstance of the officers appertaining to Her Britannic Majesty's navy, and the intervention of their superiors and of the respective Consul, had to be taken into consideration by the said Chief of Police, and if he did not sooner order the release of the officers, that is, when solicited by Captain Saumarez, it was because he had not yet received the official Report of the Sub-Delegate, whereby he might learn the reason of the imprisonment, and that the officers were placed at his disposal.

In his Report of the 5th of July, the Chief of Police did nothing more than reproducing the allegations contained in the inquiry.

The officers deny that they were tipsy, and complain of the imputation. But what did Robert Bennett and Rodolph Müller say in their declarations on this point?

It is comprehensible that in that state the said officers should have proceeded in the manner stated by the witnesses; but it is not explained, nor is it conceivable, that the sentinel, without provocation, should have left his post, which is off the road, to attack three individuals who were quietly passing by on that road.

The Tijuca Road is one of the most frequented in the suburbs. The detachment has long existed there, and no representation has been made against acts of violence or exorbitance on the part of the soldiers of which it is composed; which leads to the conclusion that it would not be with the English officers, without provocation, that the first fact should take place.

It is conceivable that the sentry having been provoked, and a struggle having followed between the English officers and the soldiers of the detachment, it became necessary to make use of some vigour in order to force the said officers into the prison. But that, after being confined, that they were treated with urbanity, they themselves acknowledge.

It was certainly from a desire to know the names and qualities of these persons that the Commandant of the detachment sent for an interpreter. How is it, therefore, admissible that, the officers having given their names and qualities in writing, the Commandant had thrown it on the floor after reading it?

The English officers say that an Austrian served as an interpreter, and fully explained to the Commandant their quality and profession, and that they replied to all his questions.

But not only the Commandant and the soldiers deny that such a declaration had been made, but, on the contrary, state that one of the officers having written their names, another of them seized the paper, tore it, and threw it on the ground; also, the very Austrian, to whom the officers refer, the interpreter Müller, declared that, on his explaining to the officers the reason why they were imprisoned, and asked them for their names and positions, they sharply answered him, without ever declaring one thing or another.

It is in some degree to be comprehended that the officers, cowed on finding themselves prisoners, did not choose to reveal their rank and profession, and that they should have satisfied themselves for the time with the threat, which they themselves declare having addressed to the Commandant of the detachment, that they would soon call him to an account for his proceeding.

On the following day, the officers being sent to the city, the Commandant in his report, which accompanied them, did not mention their names, not having any reason for so doing, but rather full convenience in this declaration, if by chance he had known them.

It was only after they were at the police office that the British Vice-Consul declared them to be officers of the British navy, when they were immediately transferred from the civil prison to that of the police corps, where they made but a short stay, and were released as soon as the Sub-Delegate placed them at the disposal of the Chief of Police, stating to him the cause of their imprisonment.

Mr. Christie makes the observation that the officers deny their having sticks with them, saying that Mr. Clemenger alone had an umbrella in his hand; whilst in the official despatch addressed to Mr. Christie himself on the 24th of June last, Admiral Warren says that the soldiers took from the officers their umbrellas and sticks.

In their refutation of the Commandant's deposition, the officers said that not one of them carried a metal flask slung with a leather strap over the shoulder, but that Mr. Clemenger had one. It is exactly what the Commandant said, with the addition that the flask contained the remains of liquor, whilst the officers said that it was empty.

The officers further say that they did not skirmish with the Brazilian soldiers, because they do speak Portuguese. Mr. Christie will, however, grant that it was not on this account that the officers would cease to deride them; as well as, that notwithstanding their ignorance of the language of the country, they themselves declare having given

the Commandant to understand that they would ere long call him to account for his behaviour.

The officers deny everything besides that the witnesses said against them. But Mr. Christie will have the goodness to consider that the denials of interested parties cannot be admitted as proofs in a Court of Justice, nor neutralize the depositions of witnesses who are impartial, in adding that the allegations of the officers do not appear to be very probable.

The complaint would be held reasonable if, from the dress, or any other declaration, it were known the said officers belonged to the British navy; but, quite on the contrary, it appears that they were dressed in plain clothes, and that they made no declaration. It finally appears that as soon as their quality was known they were immediately released, there being otherwise no matter for addressing a communication to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation on this subject.

The Imperial Government, from the foregoing explanation, does not doubt that Mr. Christie, impartially appreciating this frank and loyal statement, will deem it convenient to re-consider the subject of the present claim.

December 27, 1862.

Inclosure 4 in No. 72.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, December 30, 1862.

I HAVE read with much pain your Excellency's note of yesterday, for I see by it that all the efforts which I have made to prevent the necessity of acting on my ulterior instructions have been in vain, and that it is idle to try further persuasion.

It is now necessary for me to reply to your note of yesterday, and also to the previous note dated the 18th, to which your Excellency observes that I have yet made no written reply, and I think it desirable briefly to recount what has passed between us since the 20th, in order to complete and to correct your Excellency's narrative.

In one of my notes of the 5th instant, I had not, as your Excellency is pleased to say, fixed a peremptory term, but I had requested you to endeavour to furnish me with replies to the demands of Her Majesty's Government in the two questions of the "Prince of Wales" and the "Forte" by the 20th of this month. Not having heard from your Excellency in the interval that there would be any difficulty in complying with this request, I arrived in Rio from Petropolis, where as you know, my health obliges me to reside, on the morning of the 20th, in order to receive the expected replies, and be at hand to confer with your Excellency if it should be necessary. Finding no reply waiting for me, I sent Mr. Brodie to your Excellency's private Secretary to ascertain when I might expect to receive your replies; and Mr. Brodie was informed that on one of the two questions the reply was not yet ready, as your Excellency was waiting for a document from the Ministry of Justice, but that I might count on receiving the answers on Monday the 22nd. On that day I received your Excellency's short note proposing to refer both questions to London, discussing neither question, making no reference to any document from the Ministry of Justice, and, though the answers had not been ready on the 20th, bearing date the 18th.

A few hours after the receipt of this note I visited your Excellency. I told you that my instructions did not permit me to accept your reply. I pointed out to you that there was no allegation of new matter to be laid before Her Majesty's Government, and that, if any new matter existed, it should be submitted to me, who am charged by Her Majesty's Government with instructions to negotiate these questions here. Referring to your statement that I had paid no attention to the verbal explanations given me on the subject of the ill-treatment of the officers of the "Forte," by your Excellency, and more particularly by the Minister of Justice, I asked you what these had been and denied all knowledge of them, and your Excellency confessed that none had been given to me after the examinations made by the Chief of Police. You said you had referred to my interviews with yourself and the Minister of Justice before the investigation was held, when my only object was to urge a full inquiry, and we were none of us in a condition to discuss the question and you could not have given me explanations if you had wished it. I reminded your Excellency that after I had received the depositions I called on you by appointment for the purpose of discussing the question, and that you immediately declared yourself altogether unprepared and unable to discuss it, and did not suggest any

other day for a conference. It was after this fruitless interview that I addressed to your Excellency my note of the 19th of August, to which you never deigned to reply, not even to that part of it in which I informed you of the desire of the three officers to be confronted with the witness Müller. I also called your attention to your statement that the depositions had been confided to me privately ("particularmente"), insisted that I had asked for them and received them as of right, and reminded you that Senhor Sinimbú had at last sent them to me in original, because, when I pressed him for them after an unexpected and unreasonable delay, he had found that no steps had been taken to make copies for me as had been promised. I represented to your Excellency, without discussing the propriety of the proceeding, that you were mistaken if you supposed you would be appealing from me to Her Majesty's Government, that the appeal would be to Her Majesty's Government from itself; for that every note and document on both questions had been sent to Lord Russell, Her Majesty's Government had judged the questions, framed the demands, and given me full instructions. In fine I informed your Excellency that I was instructed, if satisfaction was not given, to address myself to the Admiral, and I begged you to receive this communication in the spirit in which I made it, by no means intending to menace, having no instruction to give you this information beforehand, but hoping, by so doing on my own responsibility, to aid in averting disagreeable events. I gave you this information confidentially for confidential communication to your colleagues, and I resisted your Excellency's requests that I should inform you in writing; and I did so partly because it was not within my instructions to warn you, and partly from a consideration, which I hope even yet may be appreciated, for the Imperial Government, because I thought a note such as you requested might bear the appearance of menace. Your Excellency did not press for the note, and I then asked you if it would be possible to inform me on the evening of the next day (the 23rd) whether the Imperial Government would or would not recall their resolution to refer these questions to London. On your Excellency's expressing a desire for further time I at once proposed to wait till Saturday the 27th, and on the following morning, the 23rd, I again visited your Excellency and requested you to prepare to answer me on the fundamental question of satisfaction by the evening of the 29th. Your Excellency has omitted to mention the chief reason which I gave you for my anxiety to avoid unnecessary delay. I stated that sickness was beginning to show itself extensively among the crews of the British vessels which were waiting in the harbour; and I have yet to learn that this reason ought not to have weighed with me, and might not, under the circumstances, be mentioned to your Excellency to urge as speedy a solution as would permit time enough for due deliberation. Your Excellency assented to the times which I proposed, and expressed no desire for a longer period for deliberation.

On the morning of the 27th I again, according to agreement, visited your Excellency, and we held a conference of some hours. You caused to be read to me, in your presence, the two memoranda of which you inclose copies in your yesterday's note, and I freely discussed them. I suggested some corrections of errors of fact in the memorandum of the "Prince of Wales" question, which I am glad to see have been made in the copy now sent to me. On leaving your Excellency I requested permission, which you granted me, to take away with me the memoranda, that I might read them once more with attention; and when your Excellency called on me the same evening, I returned the memoranda to you, saying that I had read them and reflected on them, and that I saw nothing in them which could materially modify the opinions of Her Majesty's Government on the course of action prescribed to me.

You sent your private Secretary to me very early the next morning, and, in reply to your Excellency's message by him, I could only repeat what I had said to you on the previous evening.

These two new memoranda do not furnish a single new fact or argument of any importance. They entirely exculpate the Brazilian authorities. They do not admit the slightest particle of reason in the opinions and demands of Her Majesty's Government. They do not propose any sort or degree of satisfaction other or less than Her Majesty's Government have demanded. They are, in fact, entire refusals of redress. I cannot see in these memoranda, any more than in your Excellency's previous notes, the slightest proof of that desire which you say that the Imperial Government has shown throughout to settle amicably both these questions. Your Excellency is kind enough to admit, in your yesterday's note, that there is some foundation for some part of the opinion of Her Majesty's Legation, notwithstanding their general incorrectness, but you have not condescended to state which are the points on which we have managed to escape error.

Our discussion of one of these memoranda, that on the "Prince of Wales" question, elicited a new fact of some importance; and that new fact is seriously prejudicial to the

case of the Brazilian Government. Your Excellency had laboured hard in one of your notes to convince me that the Inspector of the District, Faustino, had not been dismissed for culpable neglect of duty, but simply and solely for a short and unimportant delay in communicating the intelligence of the wreck. It appears from the report of the Chief of Police of Rio Grande of March 10, 1862, that the chief cause of Faustino's dismissal was his release of a prisoner who had been apprehended with property in his hands stolen from the wreck. Not only was he chiefly dismissed for this cause, but the Juiz do Direito was also called upon to prosecute Faustino for this culpable act. Your Excellency even still suppresses this fact in the memorandum which you have sent me, though in other respects it has been corrected; and I am the more surprised at this, as we discussed the point at some length, and clearly established the fact of Faustino's dismissal on account of this highly culpable proceeding.

The civilized nations to which the Imperial Government now proposes to appeal, will judge how far such an act tends to justify the general charges of misconduct made by Her Majesty's Consul against Faustino, and his father-in-law, Soares, the Justice of the Peace, and adopted by Her Majesty's Government; and the same nations may perhaps see in your Excellency's persevering suppression of this fact, and no less persevering denial of Faustino's culpability, as also in the assertion in your note of the 18th, of verbal explanations given to me in the question of the "Forte," which never were given, signs of a mode of treatment of these questions, either inconsistent with perfect frankness, or unworthy of their very serious character.

Your Excellency, in your yesterday's note, has strangely made a serious mistake in stating the demand of Her Majesty's Government, in the case of the "Prince of Wales." You speak of the indemnity demanded for the supposed assassinations. There is no such demand. Her Majesty's Government are, indeed, of opinion, that there is the strongest presumptive proof of murder of the crew; but they have strictly confined their demand of indemnity to the property plundered. Strange as it is that such a mistake should be made by your Excellency in a matter of such importance, it is the more strange as I pointed out a similar mistake in the memorandum which you showed me on the 27th, and the mistake has been corrected in the copy inclosed in your note.

As to the memorandum on the question of the "Forte," I must protest against your statement that Mr. Bennet, the respectable proprietor of the Tijuca Hotel, is a witness adverse to the officers. What did Mr. Bennet state? That he had heard the three officers' voices, as they passed his residence, just after leaving the hotel, that they seemed to be in good spirits, and that when the news of their imprisonment came to him, he inquired at the hotel what they had drunk at dinner, and ascertained that they had had two bottles of Bourdeaux, and half a decanter of Cognac among them; that is, that three men, who had been in port from a very early hour in the day, had drunk two bottles of light French wine among them at dinner, and taken each a glass of Cognac with their coffee. Is this any evidence against the officers? Mr. Bennet is made to add, and he added it, of course, in answer to a foolish question, that he knew nothing of what they might have drunk between his hotel and the Tijuca guard-house. How could he know what they drank elsewhere? Does this necessary ignorance of Mr. Bennet's prove that they drank anywhere else?

Of the witness Müller, who remains, according to your Excellency's view, the only disinterested witness, and who is doubtless adverse to the officers, it is enough to repeat that the officers asked to be confronted with him, and that during four months your Excellency has never vouchsafed them the opportunity, or condescended to reply to the note of Her Majesty's Minister.

Your Excellency says, of the officers of the "Forte," that the Imperial Government is convinced that the police authorities were not wanting in proper respect to the British navy, in their proceedings towards three individuals dressed in plain clothes, who refused to declare their names and rank. This language involves a charge of deliberate and persevering falsehood against the three officers, one of whom is the chaplain of the frigate; and I feel sure that I anticipate the judgment of Her Majesty's Government, when I say that such language seriously aggravates the responsibility of the Imperial Government for the outrage and indignities of which the three officers were victims, and the affront offered through them to Her Majesty's navy.

Her Majesty's Government will not shrink from the appeal which you announce to the civilized world.

Your Excellency returns, in your yesterday's note, to a defence of the appeal which you had proposed to make from me to Her Majesty's Government. Let me repeat to you that that would have been really an appeal from Her Majesty's Government to itself. Does your Excellency suppose that I could have taken on myself to frame my notes of

the 5th, and the demands with which they concluded? Let me further say, that such an appeal from a Minister to his Government is contrary to all custom and precedent, and would, I feel sure, have been summarily rejected by the British Cabinet. I might have fairly resented, if I had chosen, the insinuation of injustice which your Excellency has thought fit to launch against me; but I was unwilling to introduce a personal element into these discussions, and you know that in our conferences I have made no allusion to this unworthy insinuation. It so happens, that in another note from your Excellency, dated only three days later—the 21st, you address yourself with confidence, on an important subject, to my enlightened mind, for an accurate and benevolent opinion. I confess that the insinuation of injustice, in your note of the 18th, deprives this compliment of value for me. On the other hand, it is serviceable as neutralizing your previous censure. I set one against the other, and, under such circumstances, may say, without disrespect to your Excellency, that I am indifferent both to the praise and to the censure.

A recent diplomatic publication furnishes a precedent of such an appeal as your Excellency proposed to make from me to my Government. The Mexican Minister in Paris made an attempt in September, 1861, to appeal to M. Thouvenel from the French Minister in Mexico. M. Thouvenel quickly interrupted by saying, "We will not receive your explanations; we have entirely approved the conduct of M. de Saligny, and, in accord with England, we have given orders that a squadron composed of ships of the two nations shall require a proper satisfaction from the Government of Mexico, and your Government will learn from our Minister and our Admiral what are the demands of France." (Papers relating to Mexico communicated to the United States' Congress, May 1862.) It is a satisfaction to me to think that by firmly refusing to admit your proposed appeal I may have saved your Minister in London from a similar disappointment.

Her Majesty's Government, though they earnestly hoped that their demands would have been acceded to, felt it right to provide for the possibility of refusal; and Admiral Warren, the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval squadron on this station, will immediately proceed, under instructions with which he is furnished, to take steps for making reprisals on Brazilian property.

The property which may be seized will be held as a security until Her Majesty's Government obtain the satisfaction which the Government of the Emperor have totally and peremptorily refused, unless they shall be compelled by superior force.

I need not tell your Excellency that reprisals are a well-understood and acknowledged mode among nations of obtaining justice otherwise denied, and that they do not constitute an act of war.

The measures which will be taken by Admiral Warren are within the bounds of a state of peace. It rests with the Government of the Emperor to remain within these bounds or to transgress them. In the earnest hope that peace may not be broken, and with an ardent desire for a return to those cordial relations which Great Britain has always sought to cultivate with Brazil, but which cannot exist if Brazil perseveringly refuses reparation for wrongs done to British subjects, I beseech your Excellency and your colleagues to remember that a grave responsibility will lie on you if violent resistance to reprisals, or measures of retaliation or injuries to British persons or property on shore, shall lead to further and deplorable complications.

Admiral Warren will use every possible endeavour to execute his instructions so as to avoid a hostile conflict.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 72.

Mr. Christie to Rear-Admiral Warren.

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, December 30, 1862.

THE Brazilian Government have, totally and peremptorily refused, unless they shall be compelled by superior force, to grant the demands which I have made, by order of Her Majesty's Government, for compensation for the plunder of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales," and for satisfaction for the indignities to which three officers of your flag ship were lately subjected by the police of Tijuca and of Rio; and it is now my duty to call on you to execute, according to your discretion, the instructions of Her Majesty's Government as to measures of reprisal.

Inclosure 6 in No. 72.

*Circular addressed by Mr. Christie to Her Majesty's Consuls in Brazil.*Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, December 30, 1862.*

DEMANDS which I have made by order of Her Majesty's Government on the Government of Brazil for compensation for the plunder of the wreck of the English barque "Prince of Wales," in the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, in June 1861, and for satisfaction for the ill-treatment of three officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte" in June last, by the police-guard of Tijuca and the police authorities at Rio, having been totally and peremptorily refused, unless under compulsion of superior force, Admiral Warren will immediately proceed, according to instructions from Her Majesty's Government, to make reprisals on Brazilian property.

The property which may be seized will be held as a security until Her Majesty's Government obtain satisfaction.

Reprisals are a well-understood and acknowledged mode of proceeding among nations for obtaining justice which has been denied, and they do not constitute an act of war.

I have not failed to state this to the Imperial Government, and I have urged them to remember that theirs will be the responsibility—and a grave one—if violent resistance or retaliatory attack or injury to British persons or property in Brazil shall lead to further and deplorable complications.

Admiral Warren will use every endeavour to proceed in the manner most likely to avoid a hostile conflict.

I address this despatch to you that you may be able to explain to British subjects and others the nature of the measures which Admiral Warren is about to take.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

*Inclosure 7 in No. 72.

*Rear-Admiral Warren to Mr. Christie.*Sir, *"Forte," Rio de Janeiro, December 30, 1862.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day's date, acquainting me that the Brazilian Government have totally and peremptorily refused, unless they shall be compelled by superior force, to grant the demands which you have made by order of Her Majesty's Government for compensation for the plunder of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales," and for satisfaction for the indignities to which three officers of the "Forte" were subjected by the police of Tijuca and Rio, and calling on me to execute the instructions of Her Majesty's Government as to measures of reprisal.

In pursuance of your request to act on the instructions of Her Majesty as to measures of reprisal, I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's steam-sloops "Stromboli" and "Curlew" will proceed to sea this day, and seize on such Brazilian ships as may be considered necessary as an equivalent for the demands of Her Majesty's Government, taking them to Palmas Bay, having done which the "Stromboli" will return to Rio to report their proceedings.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHARD L. WARREN.

Inclosure 8 in No. 72.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, December 31, 1862.

INFORMATION has been brought me of a speech made to-day at the Exchange to a large assemblage of merchants by the Minister of Public Works, Commerce, and Agriculture, and I am informed that he stated that my ultimatum addressed to your Excellency was only received by you this morning, and that it was known yesterday in the commercial community.

I have taken pains to assure myself of the correctness of this information, and have every reason to believe it to be correct.

Senhor Sinimbú and I probably differ as to the meaning of the word "ultimatum." I understand my notes of the 5th to have contained my ultimatum, or rather that of Her Majesty's Government. On the 22nd your Excellency was informed by me that I had instructions in the event of refusal of satisfaction to address myself to the Admiral. On the 29th I received your Excellency's final refusal of all satisfaction except under force, and my last note, of yesterday's date, which was delivered at your house at 9 o'clock this morning, was simply a reply to yours of the 29th, and announcement of the precise nature of the measures which the Admiral would take in consequence of your refusal.

This last note, which Senhor Sinimbú, I should say unadvisedly, calls an "ultimatum," was certainly not known yesterday in the commercial community, nor is any part of it known to this moment to any one but myself and my Secretary. It was not finished till 10 o'clock last night; my Secretary then copied it. On the honour of an English Minister and an English gentleman I say to your Excellency that no one out of the English Legation did know or could have known yesterday or to-day any part of the note; and I feel sure that Senhor Sinimbú will regret having made, on erroneous information, in a moment of great excitement and to an excited assemblage, a statement so calculated to injure me in public opinion.

I learn that Senhor Sinimbú stated the intention of the Government to publish to-morrow the whole of the correspondence, and I hope I shall not in vain appeal to your justice in asking you to include this letter in the publication.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 9 in No. 72.

The Marquis of Abrantes to Mr. Christie.

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rio de Janeiro,
December 31, 1862.*

(Translation.)

I RECEIVED to-day at about 10 o'clock in the morning, the note under yesterday's date, which Mr. William Dougal Christie, &c., was pleased to address to me in reply to that which I addressed to him under the date of the 29th, in which I communicated to him the solution peremptorily exacted from the Imperial Government, about the claims concerning the shipwreck of the barque "Prince of Wales," and the occurrence at Tijuca with some officers of the "Forte" frigate.

Mr. Christie's fresh note, from the terms in which it is couched, far from affording an opportunity, which would otherwise be so desirable, for a friendly and pacific decision of these questions, still further aggravates the difficult and painful position in which the relations of the Imperial Government with the Legation of Her Britannic Majesty are placed.

Therefore, still once more, knowing the inutility of employing further efforts to bring Mr. Christie to the conviction of the injustice and groundlessness, not only of his persistence in the prosecution of these claims, as also principally of the manner in which he proposes to terminate them, and with a view to avoid an unprofitable and inconvenient discussion, I shall be very brief in the answer which I have to give him.

I have above all to correct some of the propositions contained in Mr. Christie's note, which it is impossible to allow the permanence of.

The first is that of reference to the alteration which Mr. Christie supposes having been made in the Memorandum relative to the barque "Prince of Wales."

I assured Mr. Christie that no alteration or modification was made in that Memorandum, a textual copy having been sent to him of that one which Mr. Christie heard the reading of, and which is still in my cabinet.

In the Memorandum about the officers of the "Forte," it is, that according to agreement with Mr. Christie a small alteration was made in that part in which it was said that the said officers had declared that they had no sticks, whereas the Admiral, in his official letter of the 24th of June addressed to Mr. Christie, said that the soldiers took from the officers their umbrellas and sticks.

On Mr. Christie's observing that the officers had not denied their having sticks with them, the word "had" was substituted in the Memorandum by "used."

The second correction regards the denial by Mr. Christie of his having demanded an indemnification for the supposed murders.

In his note of the 5th instant Mr. Christie demanded an indemnification for the "bodies stripped and plundered."

In associating this idea with the preceding claim for the assassination of individuals belonging to the crew of the "Prince of Wales," I understood that the demanded indemnification referred to those murders.

Mr. Christie, however, now better explaining his meaning, declares that what he demands is not an indemnification for the relations of the deceased, but for the property of which he supposes them to have been despoiled.

The explanation does not, nevertheless, remove the objections contained in the Memorandum, because it is not yet known to what bodies Mr. Christie refers. Granting that it is to the four which were taken to Rio Grande from Albardao, it would still remain to be known of what property they had been despoiled; an observation equally applicable to the others.

Mr. Christie says that the Imperial Government has made no proposal to him, and that by each of the Memorandums all the demands of the Legation are repelled.

I correct this proposition by observing that Mr. Christie has neither given time nor an opportunity for the Imperial Government to make any proposal.

When Mr. Christie's notes of the 5th instant were received, in one of which he fixed the term until the 20th for the reception of replies to them, the Imperial Government upon mature reflection saw that it could not come to an understanding with Mr. Christie on the subjects in question, and that the most appropriate and convenient course to be adopted in the interest of the good relations between the two countries was that of appealing direct to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty.

This was what I communicated to Mr. Christie in my note of the 18th.

It is thereby seen that until then the Imperial Government reserved itself to treat of the subjects in question with the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, and consequently that there was no proposal to be addressed to Mr. Christie.

On the 22nd Mr. Christie came to tell me that the projected appeal could not take place, and next declared that if his demands were not complied with he was instructed to have recourse to the Admiral.

It was, therefore, on Mr. Christie's part that the impossibility arose of any amicable proposal being made, because he accompanied by a positive ultimatum the persistence in his demands.

Mr. Christie observes that I had agreed that no verbal communication had been made to him in relation to the officers of the "Forte" frigate.

It becomes also necessary to correct this proposition, in asserting that I reminded Mr. Christie, not only that the records of the inquiries had been delivered to him, but that I, and particularly the Minister of Justice, had spoken to him on this subject.

Mr. Christie makes the remark that the witness Bennet said nothing aggravating the conduct of the officers.

Mr. Christie cannot but recognize his mistake in verifying that from Bennet's deposition it appears that he noticed on their leaving the hotel of which he is the proprietor that they were singing on the road, and that on learning of their imprisonment he spontaneously thought that they were tipsy; the result of which is, as has already been said, that this deposition corroborates that of Müller, who also asserts that the officers were tipsy.

With reference to the shipwreck of the "Prince of Wales," Mr. Christie says that the proof of the culpability of the proceedings of the Inspector of the Quarter, Faustino José da Silveira, is, in his having been dismissed for having set free one of the accused; whereas the Chief of Police himself, in his official report of the 10th of May, 1862, declared that the said Inspector was to suffer a prosecution on the score of his responsibility.

Mr. Christie must, however, remember that he, in the conference of the 27th instant, confessed that the said act of the Inspector in nothing contributed to the perpetration of the crime.

The Inspector justified himself in the inquiry which was held, alleging that he could not but keep watch on the beach, that there was no prison in which the accused could be confined, and that he thought that he might send him inland, with the prohibition not to return to the place.

If for this error the Inspector is responsible to the Government of the country, it certainly does not follow that any detriment to the question should be the result of it.

It is true that, in my preceding notes to Mr. Christie, I said that the Inspector had been dismissed on account of his delaying to communicate the shipwreck; but in the

memorandum, and with the documents presented at the conference, it was explained that this censure had been taken from the official reports of the Chief of Police of the 10th of May last, and that from subsequent and more minute examination it was found that that censure was premature, the only fact to be attributed to the Inspector being that of having driven from the beach one of the suspected, but whom he otherwise had not the means of detaining in prison.

Having made these essential corrections, and, in contemplation of diplomatic conveniences which I am bound to respect, omitting remarks on some propositions and phrases in Mr. Christie's note, I have to tell him that the Imperial Government has taken due cognizance of the contents of that note; and that it loudly and categorically protests against such violence, and so unqualifiable an abuse of force; and that it still appeals to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, notwithstanding Mr. Christie holding that that appeal is useless.

I renew, &c.

(Signed)

THE MARQUIS OF ABRANTES.

Inclosure 10 in No. 72.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, January 1, 1863.

I RECEIVED about 11 o'clock last night your Excellency's note of yesterday.

I find that your Excellency is right in saying that the mistake in the Memorandum on the "Prince of Wales" questions, as to the demand of indemnity for the probable assassinations, was not corrected in the copy sent to me.

But your Excellency is wrong in saying that no correction whatever has been made in that copy. The date of the note of the 25th October, in which there was a mistake, has been corrected at my suggestion. This, and the correction made at my suggestion in the Memorandum on the affairs of the "Forte," which your Excellency mentions, and even still more your own statement, made when you visited me in the afternoon of the 27th, that I had most clearly explained the mistake about the demand as to assassinations, led me too hastily to conclude that this mistake also had been corrected, as it should have been in the Memorandum.

This is the only one of the errors imputed to me by your Excellency to which I can plead guilty.

Your Excellency persists in a misstatement of importance when you say, "Mr. Christie, in his note on the 5th, required an indemnity for the bodies stripped and plundered." Mr. Christie does nothing of the sort in that note. I say in that note, that "Her Majesty's Government ask for compensation for the plundering of the wreck and of the bodies." I again say in that note that I am instructed to demand compensation "for the wholesale plunder of the wreck, and also for the robberies of the property of the crew. Lastly, I speak of "the compensation to be made to the relations of the people on board whose bodies were stripped and plundered;" and I have given no subsequent explanation clearer, as you say, than my original words.

I adhere to my statement that no verbal explanations were given to me either by you or Senhor Sinimbu after the investigation made by the Chief of Police, and that this was confessed by your Excellency. In the previous interviews, when my only object was to obtain an investigation, and the facts were not known, material explanations could not have been given me; I remember none at all. Your Excellency says that the verbal explanations which you have accused me of not attending to were all given in the preliminary interviews; and you will probably think it right and necessary, in appealing to the British Cabinet, to state—which you have not yet done—what are these important explanations which I have disregarded.

I beg to deny altogether the responsibility which you throw on me for there not having been time or possibility for the Imperial Government to make me some proposal which I might have discussed between the 5th and 29th of December.

I wish here to place on record that, when your Excellency visited me on the evening of the 27th, I voluntarily declared my readiness to accept, in the question of the "Forte," an explanation as to the conduct of the Chief of Police which could not hurt his feelings. I said that, having the advantage of knowing that gentleman, having listened to your Excellency's explanations, and having well considered the matter, I should willingly take on myself the responsibility of accepting an explanation, that, though it was to be regretted that without any information he had used words imputing inebriety to the three officers, he had done so by inadvertence and without offensive

intention. The Imperial Government not having permitted a settlement of this question, I am anxious at once to give this testimony, whatever it may be worth, in favour of a public functionary whom I respect.

That Mr. Bennet, at whose hotel the three officers had dined, should, on hearing of their imprisonment an hour after, have inquired what they had drunk at dinner, does not prove, as your Excellency says, that he spontaneously judged that they were intoxicated, but only that he wished to ascertain whether there could have been that cause for an imprisonment, which he, like every other just man, would be unwilling to believe was an outrage without cause.

Your Excellency does not seem to be able to see the force of the culpable act of Faustino which you had kept from view. Certainly the release of the prisoner could not have been the cause of the crime for which he had been apprehended. I should hardly have thought it necessary for your Excellency to propound this truism. Cannot your Excellency see that such an act gives good grounds for belief that the same official, whose conduct besides was generally suspicious, would have overlooked and failed to prevent other crimes?

I have thus gone through all the points of your Excellency's note of yesterday, with the exception of the one in the last paragraph, in which I am informed that the Government of the Emperor will appeal to Her Majesty's Government.

I lament this resolution, because a perseverance in it will render impossible a release of the property taken in reprisal, until I can receive instructions from Her Majesty's Government. Your note of yesterday fails even to carry out the declaration of your note of the 29th, that, in the question of the "Prince of Wales," the Imperial Government would, on the display of force, pay such sum as I or Her Majesty's Government might demand. The moment I might have heard, or may yet hear, that the Imperial Government, consistently with the previous statement, would pay what I think a reasonable sum in the matter of the "Prince of Wales," I have been and still am ready to request the Admiral to send immediate orders to desist from further seizures. I will also declare to your Excellency my readiness to entertain, for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government any reasonable proposal, such as was never made to me during the four-and-twenty days which preceded the beginning of reprisals, as, for instance, a reference of all the questions in dispute to an impartial arbitration. The endeavours of the Government of the Emperor to distinguish between me and Her Majesty's Government, which have given an illusion and example to your press, do not influence me to withhold these offers of conciliation, made in the interest of the commerce and friendship of the two nations, any more than I shall be deterred, if these efforts fail, from continuing to do my duty firmly under my instructions. For there is one point, *M. le Marquis*, in which, at this unhappy moment, among all our differences, I agree with your Excellency's statements, and that is, a belief in the justice and rectitude of my own Government.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 11 in No. 72.

The Marquis of Abrantes to Mr. Christie.

(Translation.)

Foreign Office, Rio de Janeiro, January 1, 1863.

I ACKNOWLEDGE receipt of the note which under yesterday's date Mr. Christie, &c., addressed to me, with the object of explaining the meaning of phrases which he is sure were used on the Commercial Exchange by the Minister of Agriculture, Commerce, and Public Works, in reference to the ultimatum addressed to the Imperial Government in the note dated the 30th, and received on the morning of the 31st of last month.

Mr. Christie has been informed that the Minister of Commerce, in the short speech which he made on the Exchange, considered as ultimatum Mr. Christie's note of the 30th, while the ultimatum, as Mr. Christie declares, was in his three notes of the 5th.

Pointing out to Mr. Christie that as regards what the Minister of Commerce said on the Exchange, the Imperial Government knows only what is published in to-day's "*Diario Oficial*," I have further to inform him that, in conformity with his wishes, his note shall appear in the "*Diario*," together with this my reply.

I avail &c.
(Signed) MARQUIS OF ABRANTES.

Inclosure 12 in No. 72.

Mr. Christie to Acting Consul Hollocombe.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, January 1, 1863.

I HAVE to instruct you to cause it to be made generally known that if any vessel seized by Admiral Warren's orders shall contain property belonging to parties who are not Brazilians, the Admiral will, on the nationality of the owners being proved to his satisfaction, give every facility in his power for the delivery of the property to the owners without any delay which can be avoided.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 13 in No. 72.

The Marquis of Abrantes to Mr. Christie.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rio de Janeiro,
January 2, 1863.

(Translation.)

I RECEIVED yesterday, at about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, the note which, under the same date, was addressed to me by Mr. Christie, &c.

In that note Mr. Christie begins by contesting some observations which I took the liberty to make on certain expressions in that which he addressed me on the 30th of the last month, and closes by manifesting the disposition in which he is of, by pacific means, terminating the questions now being discussed in the interest of commerce and of the friendship which exists between the two nations.

Before replying to the second and more essential part of the note before me, Mr. Christie will allow me to make a few brief observations on the objections which he has been pleased to take against the reflections contained in my note of the 31st of last month.

The Memorandum on the question of the "Prince of Wales" did not undergo any correction at all, and was transmitted to Mr. Christie in a textual copy of that one which was read at the conference of the 27th.

Mr. Christie will doubtless acknowledge that the having added to the date of the note of the 25th of October, the year 1861, cannot be considered as a correction, even because that note of the British Legation was the only one of that date; the want of the indication of the year could not give rise to the least ambiguity. As, therefore, I said in my note of the 31st of December one only word was amended or substituted in the Memorandum relative to the officers of the "Forte."

And thus, as Mr. Christie had the goodness to acknowledge that there had been a mistake on his part, in asserting that in the Memorandum about the "Prince of Wales" a modification had been made in that part relative to the claim on the subject of the murders, he will admit that no correction whatever was made in that same Memorandum, the simple addition of the year 1861 not being possibly considered as such.

In making these observations, I merely do so in order to correct facts, although they be unimportant. As to the compensation demanded by Mr. Christie for the relations of the crew, it is not difficult for me to understand, from the explanations subsequently given to me by him, that the compensation was demanded for the pretended plunder of their bodies.

But Mr. Christie cannot but admit that, notwithstanding this modification, the essential observation still exists which is read in the respective Memorandum, and is, the difficulty, if not the impossibility of determining which are the bodies and what are the effects of which they were despoiled.

Mr. Christie persists in his allegation that he received no verbal explanation either from M. Sinimbú or from me, about the officers of the "Forte" frigate. This being his conviction, I must believe that I was not well understood when I declared to Mr. Christie that I, as well as the Minister of Justice, had spoken to him on this question, not only before, but after the inquiry conducted by the Police Department: it would be difficult for me to refer to the words uttered by me on those occasions; but they must certainly have been those which might suggest a state of things in which, on the one side, showed a desire to do everything that might be possible to satisfy Mr. Christie, and on the other the impossibility of disregarding the depositions of witnesses, only for the purpose of putting faith in the allegations of the interested parties.

Mr. Christie likewise insists upon the unimportance of the deposition of the witness Bennet. Certainly this deposition of itself alone would not be sufficient to constitute a formal proof; but, connected with the deposition of the German, Müller, who asseverated that the three officers were tipsy, Bennet's deposition comes to corroborate that assertion.

Respecting the Inspector, Faustino, I must observe to Mr. Christie, that of the fault committed by him, in not imprisoning one of the indicated persons, and of which he endeavoured to justify himself by the declaration that he had not the means of confining him, it cannot be inferred that he had been negligent or conniving at the perpetration of the crime, it having been otherwise judged that the censuring that functionary for other causes, such as for not having given timely information of the shipwreck, and for having opposed the disinterment of the bodies, was unfounded.

If it be unjust to draw such an inference, if from thence it cannot be concluded, *à priori*, that Faustino had allowed the perpetration of the crime, or had concurred towards its commission, of what other crime could it be supposed that Faustino had been guilty for having committed that fault?

Besides the danger and inadmissibility of the principle of the conclusion from one proved fault to another completely destitute of proof, it must be added that, in relation to Faustino, that which was proved was an error committed in the exercise of his attributions, and for which he was accountable to the Government; while the crime attributed to him by the British Legation is of a very different nature, being that of negligence or connivance at the perpetration of the crime.

It is conceivable that an ill-disposed individual may inspire suspicions, and even so there will not be sufficient to accuse, and still less to condemn him. But a public functionary may commit errors in his official capacity and not on that account be considered a malefactor.

Mr. Christie declines all responsibility for not having allowed either time or opportunity to the Imperial Government for making some proposal, and declares that he was ready to receive and discuss any proposal in the interval between the 5th and 29th of December.

Mr. Christie will be so good as to remember that the Imperial Government, not considering his notes of the 5th of December as an ultimatum, thought that it might appeal directly to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, and stated the same to Mr. Christie in the note of the 18th of that month. The Imperial Government could not, therefore, make any proposal to Mr. Christie in that interval. Being, however, informed by Mr. Christie, on the 22nd, that he did not admit of any appeal to the British Cabinet, and that if the demands made in his notes of the 5th should not be promptly attended to, he had received instructions to address himself to the Admiral, the Imperial Government found itself from that day (the 22nd) placed in a situation of submission or resistance, and not of proposing modifications of the ultimatum; and that the notes of the 5th of December, as meant by the British Minister, contained an ultimatum, which he himself subsequently declared in his note of the 31st of December.

Under such circumstances, the Imperial Government could not nourish the slightest hopes that any proposal would be listened to, unless it were the pure and simple acceptance of the demands made by Mr. Christie.

It is true that Mr. Christie consented to listen to elucidations which I furnished him at the conference of the 27th; but only on the part of the British Minister could any proposal be made of a modification of his demands, and so he declared when he took away the Memoranda, in order to reconsider their contents.

On the afternoon of that day Mr. Christie told me that he would consent to diminish the censure upon the Chief of Police, upon this magistrate's explaining that he had no intention to offend the three officers.

On the following day (28th) I sent my Secretary to inquire of Mr. Christie whether that was the only modification which he then proposed to make, or whether he felt disposed to make others. Mr. Christie answered that it was the only one which he could agree to, and that the other demands of the notes of the 5th of December were still persisted in.

The proposed modification was not sufficient to neutralize or weaken the gravity of the other demands of the ultimatum; and as the Imperial Government could not accept it, a reply was addressed to Mr. Christie in the terms of the note of the 29th.

From this short and faithful narrative of what passed between Mr. Christie and myself since the receipt of his notes of the 5th, it is clearly seen that the Imperial Government has neither had time nor opportunity for making any proposal to Mr. Christie.

As to what appertains to the second essential part of the note which is before me, the Imperial Government, animated by the same desire which is manifested by Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, to put an end to the questions now pending in such a manner as may be consentaneous with the great interests of good understanding and of such important relations between the two countries, I have received instructions from His Majesty the Eupenor to declare to Mr. Christie, that as the Council of State must be consulted on the proposed means for the fittest solution of these questions, it became an urgent necessity that Mr. Christie should await the definitive reply, which will be given to him as soon as possible to that part of his note to which I have alluded.

And in order to bring this subject matter to the knowledge of the Council of State, to which the consideration of it is to be submitted, I request Mr. Christie to have the goodness to tell me explicitly whether the impartial arbitration to which both the said questions are to be referred is to decide both of them; that is, the one relative to the shipwreck of the barque "Priuce of Wales," and that which relates to the officers of the "Forte" frigate, or if the same arbiter is to confine himself to the latter of these questions, the former remaining solved in the terms of my note of the 29th of last December.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) THE MARQUIS OF ABRANTES.

Inclosure 14 in No. 72.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, January 2, 1863.

I DO not think it necessary to continue a discussion on the various minor points on which you have rejoined to me at such length in your note of to-day, and am content to leave it to the public to judge between us on those points without further observations from me.

I am glad to learn that the Government of the Emperor have judged worthy of consideration the suggestions which I have made for facilitating a settlement of the questions which have led to reprisals on the part of Her Majesty's Government, and in answer to your question whether the suggested impartial arbitration should include both the questions of the "Prince of Wales" and the "Forte," or be applied only to the latter, I have only to say that in my yesterday's note I declared my readiness to entertain for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government a proposal to refer all the questions in dispute to an impartial arbitration.

I shall be ready to give my best consideration, with a view to referring it to Her Government, to any reasonable proposal which the Imperial Government may make to me; but until such proposal is before me I cannot explain myself, or indeed form a resolution on my conditions of acceptance.

I would venture strongly to point out to your Excellency the desirability of your submitting to me in a verbal conference any proposal which you may be authorized to make, and I should hope that we might be able to concur in some written memorandum of agreement to be submitted by you afterwards to your colleagues.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 15 in No. 72.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, January 3, 1863.

I REPLIED last night to your note of yesterday within an hour after receiving it, wishing to do everything in my power to prevent delay in the negotiation which you have shown your willingness to enter into.

I have nothing to change in what I have said as regards this negotiation. But further consideration has brought me to the opinion that it is important for Her Majesty's Government, and due to myself, that I should notice one of your preliminary observations.

Your Excellency says, in answer to my statement that no verbal explanations were given to me after the investigation of the Chief of Police, and that you had confessed this,

that I must have misunderstood you, for you told me that explanations were given both after and before the inquiry. My recollection is very precise and my conviction very strong as to what I have stated; but it becomes unnecessary to prolong a discussion as to the variance in our recollections, as your Excellency confesses that you cannot remember your words, but that your explanations would naturally have been such as the state of things would have suggested. That is, your Excellency now describes these explanations not from memory but from conjecture; and it cannot, therefore, be disrespectful or inconsistent with diplomatic proprieties if I say that explanations which you have yourself forgotten could not have merited much attention from me, and cannot justify you in having made them a reason, and the single reason, for referring to the British Cabinet the question of the officers of the "Forte."

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 16 in No. 72.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, January 3, 1863.

I AM obliged to call your Excellency's attention to remarks in the "Diario Official" of the 1st instant and of to-day making a distinction, with reference to the present unhappy state of affairs, between Her Majesty's Legation and Her Majesty's Government, expressing a conviction that my proceedings will not be sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government, and charging me with seizing on a pretext for disturbing the friendly relations between Great Britain and Brazil. I must hold the Government of the Emperor responsible for these and any future similar remarks in their official journal. It ought not to be necessary to remind you that I am the Minister of Her Britannic Majesty accredited to your august Sovereign in a Royal letter desiring that faith shall be given to all I say as from Her Majesty's Government, and I have said to you many times, in words and in writing, that I am acting under instructions from my Government.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 17 in No. 72.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, January 3, 1863.

I REGRET to be unable to attend your Excellency, as you propose, at your house for the conference, but I shall be in the Strangers' Hotel the whole of the day; and if indisposition or any other cause prevents your Excellency from coming to me, I shall be very happy to confer with your Private Secretary, M. Calogeras, who I know has your entire confidence.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 18 in No. 72.

Memorandum of Basis of Arrangement.

THE Brazilian Government will oblige itself to pay on the "Prince of Wales'" affair the sum which Her Majesty's Government may demand, protesting against its responsibility, Mr. Christie having urged the Brazilian Government to include the questions connected with the "Prince of Wales'" affair in its proposal of an impartial arbitration.

Mr. Christie will immediately request the Admiral to give orders for the stoppage of seizures.

The Brazilian Government will propose to refer the question of the officers of the "Forte" to an impartial arbitration, which Her Majesty's Government will be free to accept or decline.

The Brazilian Government will inform Mr. Christie in a separate document for the

confidential information of Her Majesty's Government of the arbiters or modes of arbitration which it will accept, in the hope that Her Majesty's Government may feel itself able to accept one of those proposed, and so a settlement be expedited.

Mr. Christie wishes to understand distinctly whether the Brazilian Government make themselves responsible for all prejudices and losses which may be caused to subjects of third Governments who may be owners of cargoes seized in Brazilian vessels.

All the anterior correspondence in both questions to be published immediately by the Brazilian Government.

The vessels seized to be released.

(Signed)

W. D. CHRISTIE.

January 3, 1863.

Inclosure 19 in No. 72.

Rear-Admiral Warren to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

"Forte," January 4, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Stromboli," rejoined my flag at 4 P.M. this day. Commander Henry reports having detained the Brazilian vessels named in the inclosed list, and has left them in charge of Commander Forbes of the "Curlew," in Palmas Bay.

Eleven of the passengers on board these detained vessels, who wished to proceed to Rio, were brought up in the "Stromboli," and have been landed accordingly at this place.

In the execution of this service I am happy to inform you that no resort to force was necessary; the usual signal to heave-to, by firing a blank gun, being made in the case of three of the vessels, and the other two were stopped by merely hailing them.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

RICHARD L. WARREN.

Inclosure 20 in No. 72.

LIST of Vessels detained by Her Majesty's ships "Stromboli" and "Curlew."

Name of Vessels.	Master.	Where from.	Bound.	How rigged.	Rough Estimate of Value of Ship and Cargo.	Passengers.
Trinta e uma di Outubro	Joaquim de Santos	Rio de Janeiro	Barradi S. José	Hiate	£ 700	1
Chaves I	Ramão Quinteros	Benevente	Rio de Janeiro	Patacho	2,400	4
Aurea	José Francisco di Paula Bizuidon	Victoria	Ditto	Sumaca	890	
Senhora de Carmo	Henrique Francisco Pedrozo	Rio	Paraté	Ditto	450	
Parahyba	José Gonsalves di Frietas	Ubatuba	Rio de Janeiro	Steamer	8,000	4

Inclosure 21 in No. 72.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, January 5, 1863.

I HAVE received your Excellency's note of to-day; and learning from your Excellency that the Imperial Government are ready to give orders to their Minister in London to pay under protest whatever sum Her Majesty's Government may demand as compensation in the affair of the "Prince of Wales," and also to accept my suggestion of proposing for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government an arbitration in the question of the officers of the "Forte," I will immediately request Admiral Warren to desist from reprisals, and to give general orders for the restitution of the prizes which have been made.

Your Excellency may feel assured that reprisals cease from this moment, and that Admiral Warren will send orders without delay for the release of the prizes.

The Imperial Government, for reasons doubtless satisfactory to themselves, have thought it better to pay under protest what may be demanded in the case of the "Prince

of Wales," than to adopt my suggestion of proposing to refer that question also to arbitration. In the conferences which I have had with your Secretary, as representing your Excellency, I strongly urged the advantage to the Imperial Government of reserving that chance of a decision more or less in their favour. The force of a protest against responsibility cannot, I think, but be weakened by a refusal to submit the point to arbitration; but at any rate Her Majesty's Government cannot be open to any imputation of indelicacy in taking on themselves to fix, as they are requested to do, the amount of compensation.

Her Majesty's Government are free to accept or decline the proposal of arbitration in the question of the "Forte."

I think it right to place on record, that your Secretary, representing your Excellency, has also promised me that all the anterior correspondence on both questions between Her Majesty's Legation and the Government of the Emperor shall be published without delay.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE,

Inclosure 22 in No. 72.

Mr. Christie to Rear-Admiral Warren.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, January 6, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the Brazilian Government have declared their readiness—

1st. To pay under protest to the Government of Her Majesty any sum which the latter may demand as just compensation for the plunder of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales;" preferring this mode of settlement to proposing, as I had suggested to them, to refer the whole of that question to arbitration.

2nd. To propose, in the case of the officers of the "Forte," to refer the question to an arbitration; and it will be for Her Majesty's Government to determine whether they shall accept or decline this proposal.

Under these circumstances, I feel myself justified in requesting you to give immediate orders to desist from further seizures and to release the prizes already made.

I cannot conclude the communication without recording my sense of the cordial co-operation and valuable advice which I have received from you throughout these proceedings.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE,

Inclosure 23 in No. 72.

Rear-Admiral Warren to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

"Forte," Rio de Janeiro, January 6, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, acquainting me with the steps the Brazilian Government have declared their readiness to take, with a view to the final settlement of the claims of Her Majesty's Government in the case of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales," and the outrage on "Forte's" officers.

And with reference to your request for the stoppage of further seizures of Brazilian ships, and for the release of the prizes already made, I have to inform you that I have directed Commander Henry to proceed forthwith to Palmas Bay, to release the ships detained there in charge of the "Curlew," after which he proceeds with all speed to Pernambuco, for the protection of British interests, the "Satellite" leaving in the course of a few hours for Bahia, and the "Dotterel" for Rio Grande do Sul, with a similar object.

I have to thank you for your concluding paragraph, and am gratified to find that you consider I have been of service in assisting you to bring this unpleasant business to a point which will, I trust, lead to a final adjustment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RICHARD L. WARREN.

Inclosure 24 in No. 72.

Circular addressed by Mr. Christie to Her Majesty's Consuls in Brazil.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, January 6, 1863.

WITH reference to my circular despatch of December 30, I have the pleasure of informing you that I have made an arrangement with the Brazilian Government which has led me to request Admiral Warren to desist from further reprisals, and restore the prizes which have been made; so that Brazilian vessels are again entirely free from molestation by Her Majesty's ships of war.

The Brazilian Government have agreed to pay, under protest, any sum which Her Majesty's Government may demand of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales;" preferring this mode of settlement to proposing, as I had suggested to them, to refer the whole of that question to arbitration.

They propose, in the case of the officers of the "Forte," to refer the question to arbitration; and it will be for Her Majesty's Government to determine whether they shall accept or decline this proposal.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 25 in No. 72.

The Marquis of Abrantes to Mr. Christie.

(Translation.)

Foreign Office, Rio de Janeiro, January 6, 1863.

WITH reference to the verbal explanations which I said had been given by me, and chiefly by the Minister of Justice, to Mr. W. D. Christie, &c., in the question of the officers of the "Forte," Mr. Christie, in his note of the 3rd instant, makes some observations in support of what he had before said on the subject.

As there does not appear to me to be any utility in continuing the discussion on this subject, I confine myself, in answer to Mr. Christie, to acknowledging his note and declaring that I am fully informed of its contents.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) MARQUIS OF ABRANTES.

Inclosure 26 in No. 72.

The Marquis of Abrantes to Mr. Christie.

(Translation.)

Foreign Office, Rio de Janeiro, January 6, 1863.

I ACKNOWLEDGE receipt of the note which Mr. W. D. Christie, &c., has sent me dated the 3rd, and in which, referring to some expressions in the "Diario Oficial" of the 1st and 3rd, he corrects the statements and protests against them.

In reply I beg to say to Mr. Christie that, in exceptional circumstances, it is not always possible to avoid some expression or other not quite suitable or correct, especially in writings, such as those in question, hastily prepared; but that I can assure Mr. Christie that the Imperial Government would never approve the intentional employment in the "Diario Oficial" of language offensive to Mr. Christie.

And this appears to me a proper opportunity for removing also from the mind of Mr. Christie the disagreeable impression produced on it by the Imperial Government having resolved to appeal from the judgment of the Representative of Her Britannic Majesty to that of his Government.

Assuredly it cannot with reason be inferred from this fact that the Imperial Government pretended to doubt whether Mr. Christie had instructions from his Government.

What is naturally to be inferred is that, the Imperial Government considering that Mr. Christie viewed unjustly, though sincerely, the questions in discussion, and hoping that his Government would view them in a different manner, resolved to resort to this measure, without, however, supposing that in it could be seen a censure on the character of Mr. Christie.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) MARQUIS OF ABRANTES.

Inclosure 27 in No. 72.

Mr. Christie to Acting Consul Hollocombe.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, January 7, 1863.

WHEN the arrangement which I reported to you yesterday was concluded, I was assured that the correspondence would be published this morning in the official journal and in the other newspapers. This publication has not been made, and a false explanation of the delay has appeared in the "Diario Official."

The Marquis of Abrantes has hastened to assure me through his Secretary that he was as much astonished as myself at seeing that the correspondence was not published, that he had given orders for the publication, and that the publication will be made to-morrow with a contradiction of the statement which appears to-day in the "Diario Official."

Some journals have turned the delay of publication to account by articles containing information which could only have been supplied by a member of the Government, and full of distortions and misstatements.

It is naturally to be supposed that no person of less position than a member of the Cabinet could have ventured to suspend the order of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and that the same Minister who has acted thus has inspired the journals to which I refer. I can quite understand that the person who has acted thus would see advantage in a day's delay in order to anticipate by misstatements the impression which the correspondence may produce.

I wish you to make this despatch immediately known as widely as possible.

To-morrow's publication will show that I have made no unworthy concession, and that I have agreed on the 5th of January to terms such as it is known to many that I have been ready to accept since the 31st of December. If the arrangement which has at last been made, and which restores the commerce of this port to freedom, satisfies the true honour and dignity of Brazil, this can only be an additional source of satisfaction to me, for it is not less my desire than my duty to endeavour to combine respect for the true dignity of Brazil, with the vindication of British rights and British honour.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 28 in No. 72.

The Marquis of Abrantes to Mr. Christie.

(Translation.)

Foreign Office, Rio de Janeiro, January 7, 1863.

IN conformity with the arrangement made by the notes exchanged dated the 5th, between this Department and the British Legation, I fulfil the duty of informing Mr. W. D. Christie, &c., that by the packet which leaves to-morrow for Southampton the necessary orders are sent to the Imperial Legation in London to deliver, under protest in the terms of my note of the 29th of last month, the sum which Her Britannic Majesty's Government may demand as compensation for the wreck of the "Prince of Wales."

And I further inform Mr. Christie that the arbiter chosen by His Majesty the Emperor to judge the question of the officers of the frigate "Forte" in the terms of the same note is His Majesty the King of Belgium, in whose wisdom and justice he has the fullest confidence.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) MARQUIS OF ABRANTES.

Inclosure 29 in No. 72.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, January 8, 1863.

YOUR Excellency hastened yesterday morning to assure me through your Secretary that you felt indignant at all our correspondence not having been published yesterday as had been promised to me; that you had given the order for its publication, and that it had been stopped without your knowledge; that you felt your honour compromised; and that the whole correspondence should without fail appear this morning.

The whole correspondence has not yet appeared, and faith has not even yet been kept with me.

Three notes of mine of January 3rd, and two of your Excellency's of January 6th, have not been published.

I wish to know from your Excellency, before I conclude my report to Her Majesty's Government, whether or not all these omitted notes will be published to-morrow.

I find it necessary to remind your Excellency that you have not yet sent me the promised note as to the readiness of the Imperial Government to indemnify subjects of third Governments, owners of cargoes, who may have suffered by the reprisals. That such a note should be written was part of the arrangement made by me with your Secretary, and your honour and that of the Imperial Government require that such a note should be published with the rest of the correspondence.

Painful circumstances known to your Excellency as well as to myself connected with the non-publication of the correspondence yesterday, which I do not now wish to enter into, but which it will be my duty to report fully to Her Majesty's Government, oblige me to say to your Excellency, with reference to statements made in various journals, that I have been assured by your Secretary, representing you, that the arrangement which I have made with the Imperial Government excludes all questions of satisfaction for the reprisals or negotiations in England; and I so report to Her Majesty's Government.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 30 in No. 72.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, January 8, 1862.

YOUR Excellency assured me yesterday that there should appear this morning, in the "Diario Official," a satisfactory contradiction of its improper statement of yesterday, why the correspondence was not yesterday published as your Excellency had promised.

I have now read the explanation which has appeared to-day in the "Diario Official," and regret to say that it is very unsatisfactory.

The release of the prizes was in no way a condition for the complete publication of the correspondence which your Excellency unconditionally promised should be made yesterday; and I regret to add that even yet the publication is incomplete.

The incorrect statement which appeared yesterday in the "Diario Official" was communicated to other journals, and has been published by them with every appearance of official authority. I see no communication by way of contradiction or explanation in these other journals this morning.

I must request your Excellency to cause this note to be published with the correspondence which has been to-day omitted, and which you have already assured me shall appear to-morrow.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 31 in No. 72.

Mr. Christie to Acting Consul Hollocombe.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, January 8, 1863.

THE Marquis of Abrantes has sent me further assurances that the Government have taken, and will continue to take, every possible measure to prevent disturbances and allay excitement.

I shall see the Admiral in the course of the day, and I shall beg him to place himself in communication with you; and if there is any further serious sign of persecution of Englishmen, to consider about making some movement of the "Forte" or the "Leopard," or both, nearer the town, and about placing some marines at the Consulate.

I have caused this indirectly to be made known last night to the Marquis of Abrantes.

You may cautiously make this known to the English community.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 32 in No. 72.

The Marquis of Abrantes to Mr. Christie.

(Translation.)

Foreign Office, Rio de Janeiro, January 8, 1863.

MR. W. D. CHRISTIE, &c., insisted in the conference on the necessity of explaining if the Imperial Government made itself responsible for the losses suffered by foreigners who might have goods on board the Brazilian vessels captured by the English ships of war.

I have now to declare to Mr. Christie that as, on the one hand, the Minister of Commerce, Agriculture, and Public Works, declared on the Exchange that the Imperial Government regarded as a debt of honour the losses which might be caused to Brazilian commerce; and as Mr. Christie has, on the other hand, given public notification on the 1st instant, that if any captured vessel contained property belonging to persons who were not Brazilian subjects, the Admiral, on proof of the nationality of the owners, would facilitate the delivery of their property without delay; it appears that there is no necessity for any explanation from the Imperial Government, seeing that Mr. Christie has acknowledged what he should do as regards neutral property.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) MARQUIS OF ABRANTES.

Inclosure 33 in No. 72.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, January 8, 1863.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of to-day, by which I clearly see that the Brazilian Government accepted the responsibility for any loss which may have occurred to neutral owners of cargoes from the reprisals made by order of Her Majesty's Government.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 73.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received February 4.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 9, 1863.

HAVING found it necessary to delay the English packet till this afternoon, I am able to inform your Lordship that to-day all is quiet.

Mr. Brodie had occasion to see the Marquis of Abrantes yesterday. The Marquis voluntarily stated to him that he continued to regret the non-publication of the concluding correspondence on the 7th, and that he was convinced I was right in my opinion that, if the arrangement had been made known that day by the means of the promised publication, there would have been no return of symptoms of disturbance.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 74.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received February 4.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 9, 1863.

BY detaining the steamer till this afternoon I am fortunately enabled to send your Lordship a copy and translation of a despatch from the Marquis of Abrantes to Senhor Moreira, which has been published in this morning's paper, together with a copy of a note I have felt it my duty to address to him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 74.

The Marquis of Abrantes to Senhor Moreira.

(Translation.)

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir, *Foreign Office, Rio de Janeiro, January 8, 1863.*

I CALL your Excellency's best attention to the inclosed numbers of the "Diario Official" of the 1st, 2nd, 7th, 8th, and 9th of this month.

They contain, in the correspondence exchanged between this Ministerial Department and the Legation of Her Britannic Majesty, the explanation of the conflict in which the Imperial Government has been unhappily engaged with that Legation, in consequence of the ultimatum presented by him on the claims concerning the wreck of the "Prince of Wales" and what occurred at Tijuca with some officers of the frigate "Forte."

In the correspondence which I refer to, the justice and dignity with which the Imperial Government resisted the exaggerated pretensions of the British Legation are so completely demonstrated that it would undoubtedly be useless to add here any considerations of that sort.

If, armed with reason and right, the Government of His Majesty the Emperor has fulfilled a duty in replying to the threats of the British Legation by a solemn protest against the indescribable injury which was threatened, and by the positive declaration that it would in no case consent to sacrifice the honour and dignity of the nation, it has, nevertheless, not hesitated to accept the pacific and honourable means which was indicated by the British Legation, of a recourse to an impartial arbitration to judge the question relative to the frigate "Forte."

It is pleasing to say that in both cases the Imperial Government has always met with the most unanimous, decided, and energetic support from the whole population, which by its conduct, alike prudent and energetic, in this conjuncture, has given once more a valuable proof of its patriotism and good sense.

As your Excellency will see by the two last notes exchanged between this Department and the British Legation, the appeal to an arbiter has been definitively arranged as regards the subject of the officers of the "Forte" in the terms of the note of the 5th instant, and there has also been definitively arranged the payment in London, through your Legation, and under protest in the terms of my note of the 29th of December, of the sum which the British Government may demand for the wreck of the "Prince of Wales;" execution of these resolutions being, however, to be preceded by the cessation of reprisals and the release of the prizes.

Reprisals having actually ceased, and the prizes having been released, the principal condition of the arrangement is realized; and therefore your Excellency is authorized to pay, under protest, the sum which may be demanded by the British Government, as indemnity in the case of the "Prince of Wales."

As to the question in dispute about the frigate "Forte," the arbiter chosen by His Majesty the Emperor is His Majesty the King of the Belgians.

The prizes having been made and kept in the territorial waters of the Empire, it concerns our dignity to demand from the British Government a proper satisfaction for this violation of our territorial sovereignty, as we have also the right to demand from the same Government an indemnification for the losses resulting from the captures made by the English vessels of war.

Finally, the Imperial Government confides in the patriotism, zeal, and ability of your Excellency, that you will employ all means which the terms of the arrangement permit, not only to convince the British Government of the unreasonableness and injustice of the ultimatum presented in this capital by their Minister, but also to satisfy them that in accepting the same Minister's suggestion to submit the question of the "Forte" to arbitration, the Imperial Government has given one proof more of its great desire to combine the preservation of the national honour and dignity with the continuance of the existing relations between the two countries, as is demanded by the most important interests which connect them.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) MARQUIS OF ABRANTES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 74.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, January 9, 1863.

I HAVE read in this morning's "Diario Official" and other journals, your despatch to the Brazilian Minister in London, in which you say that the dignity of Brazil

requires you to demand from Her Majesty's Government proper satisfaction for the violation of territorial sovereignty by the reprisals which have been made, and that you have also the right to claim indemnification of all losses caused by the reprisals.

No such reservation was made in the note which your Excellency addressed to me on the 5th instant, and in consequence of which, after several conferences with your Secretary, I agreed to stop reprisals and release prizes.

Your Excellency, with the knowledge of your colleagues, sent your Secretary to me to represent you, and the Imperial Government are bound by his proceedings. For myself, I have had great pleasure in treating with M. Calogeras, and I truly congratulate your Excellency and his adopted country on the possession of so able, zealous, and honourable a public servant.

M. Calogeras has since told me, with reference to observations in some of the journals which, but for an unhappy circumstance known to your Excellency, would be totally unworthy of attention,—that all questions of satisfaction and compensation for the reprisals are precluded by the arrangement made with me.

I wrote yesterday to your Excellency that all such questions were precluded, and your Excellency has not contradicted me before the time for the departure of the packet.

By detaining the steamer I have fortunately been able to forward to Earl Russell a copy of your despatch to Senhor Moreira, and a copy of this note.

Common justice will suggest to your Excellency the propriety of completing your publication of the correspondence by publishing this note.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 75.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received February 5.)

Sir,

Admiralty, February 4, 1863.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter from Rear-Admiral Warren, dated the 8th January, with copies of two of its inclosures, relating to the measures taken for reprisals at Rio de Janeiro, in consequence of the Brazilian Government failing to give the satisfaction required for the outrages committed on certain officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte," and for the plunder of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales" merchant-vessel; also reporting that the Brazilian Government had subsequently made propositions likely to lead to the adjustment of the questions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 75.

Rear-Admiral Warren to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

"Forte," Rio de Janeiro, January 8, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that on the 30th December Her Majesty's Minister acquainted me by letter that he had failed in obtaining from the Brazilian Government the satisfaction required by Her Majesty's Government for the plunder of the "Prince of Wales" wrecked on the coast of Albardao in June 1861, and also for the insulting treatment of three officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte," and calling upon me to assist him by carrying out the instructions received on that head from Earl Russell in the event of non-compliance, viz., to make reprisals.

2. I consequently sent out the "Stromboli" on the afternoon of the 30th, and the "Curlew" on the following morning with orders to seize Brazilian ships, a copy of which I inclose; they detained five vessels, as per accompanying list, amounting in value to about 13,000*l.*, and sent them into Palmas Bay, where they were left under the charge of Commander Forbes of the "Curlew."

3. I considered this the most advisable way of making these reprisals, so as to avoid any collision, which my instructions pointed out, Her Majesty's Government were

most anxious should be prevented, if possible; and I am happy to inform their Lordships I have succeeded, notwithstanding the great excitement existing in the town.

4. On the 5th instant Her Majesty's Minister informed me by letter that the Brazilian Government had made a proposition, which he could accept as likely to lead to an arrangement of the questions, and which he accordingly accepted conditionally on the approval of Her Majesty's Government. I consequently despatched a ship at once to release the detained vessels, and fearing disturbances at other ports, when intelligence arrived there of the strong measures we had been compelled to take, I despatched the "Satellite" to Bahia, "Stromboli" to Pernambuco, and "Dotterel" to Rio Grande do Sul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 75.

Orders addressed to Commander Henry.

By Richard Laird Warren, Esquire, Rear-Admiral of the White Squadron of Her Majesty's fleet, and Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's ships and vessels employed on the South-East Coast of America Station.

HER Majesty's Government having for some time been endeavouring, through the British Minister at Rio de Janeiro, to obtain from the Brazilian Government reparation for the plunder of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales," of Glasgow, on the coast of Albardao, as also for the outrage committed by the Brazilian police on officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte," the negotiations on these questions have at length been brought to a close by the positive refusal of His Imperial Majesty's Government to grant any redress.

Under these circumstances, Her Majesty's Government have determined to resort to reprisals on Brazilian property. And in pursuance of such decision you are hereby required and directed to proceed to sea in Her Majesty's steam-ship under your command, and taking the "Curlew" under your orders you will seize and detain such Brazilian ships as may be considered necessary, and take them to Palmas Bay.

In the execution of this duty you will take care to ascertain that the ships seized are the property of Brazilian subjects, and you are to avoid as much as possible using force in carrying out this object.

All passengers you may find in such ships are to be treated with every consideration, and are to be allowed to retain every article of personal property, the ships and their freight only being detained, with the masters and such number of the crew as may be necessary to keep them clean and to look after the cargo. All injury or damage to the hull or sails of the ships detained must be most carefully avoided, as in the event of the Brazilian Government granting the demands in question, the ships and property of Brazilian subjects must be returned to them uninjured.

Given, &c., on board the "Forte," at Rio de Janeiro, 30th December, 1862.

(Signed) RICHARD L. WARREN.

To Commander Henry,

Her Majesty's steam-ship "Stromboli."

By command of the Commander-in-chief.

(Signed) HUGH S. PULLEN.

Inclosure 3 in No. 75.

LIST of Vessels boarded by the boats of Her Majesty's ship "Stromboli," Commander Arthur R. Henry, between December 31, 1862, at 7.45 P.M., and January 4, 1863.

Name of Vessels.	Masters.	Detained.		Flag.	Value of Ships, &c.
		When.	Where.		
Trinta e una di Outubro ...	Joaquim de Santos	December 31, 1862, 7.45 P.M.	N.E. extremity of E. Maricas Island	Brazilian ...	£ 700
Chaves I. ...	Ramao Quinteros ...	January 1, 1863, 9.10 A.M. ..	Cape Frio, N.E. by E. ...	Ditto ...	2,400
Aurea ...	Jose F. de Paula Bizuidon .	January 1, 1863, 6.45 P.M. ..	Cape Frio ...	Ditto ...	890
Senhora de Carmo ...	Henrique F. Pedreiro ...	January 2, 1863, 7 P.M. ...	Round Island, N. 74° E. ...	Ditto ...	450
Parahyba ...	José Gonsalves de Freitas .	January 3, 1863, A.M. ...	Ditto	Ditto ...	8,000

No. 76.

Earl Russell to Mr. Christie.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February 7, 1863.*

YOUR despatches of the 8th to 9th ultimo have been received and laid before the Queen, and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve your proceedings as reported in those despatches.

Her Majesty's Government accept the terms offered by the Brazilian Government in the matter of the wreck of the "Prince of Wales," as well as the arbitration of the King of the Belgians in the case of the officers of the "Forte," if His Majesty will consent to act as arbitrator.

The sum to be fixed as indemnity for the "Prince of Wales" will be based upon the most accurate estimate that Her Majesty's Government can form.

Her Majesty's Government are glad to find that owing to the instructions they had given, and the prudence shown by Admiral Warren in executing them, there has been no collision with the Brazilian forts or navy.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL

No. 77.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February 7, 1863.*

WITH reference to your letter of the 4th instant I am directed by Earl Russell to transmit to you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of the despatch that has been addressed by this mail to Her Majesty's Minister in Brazil,* approving his proceedings in the matters of the "Prince of Wales" and "Forte," and stating that Her Majesty's Government accept the terms of the settlement offered by the Brazilian Government.

I am, at the same time, to request that you will suggest to their Lordships that the manner in which Admiral Warren carried out his instructions should be approved.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 78.

M. Moreira to Earl Russell.—(Received February 10.)

(Translation.) *Imperial Legation of Brazil, London, February 9, 1863.*

THE Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, has the honour to inform the Earl Russell, &c., that he has just received from his Government two notes, dated the 5th January last, which passed between the Imperial Government of Brazil and the British Legation in Rio de Janeiro, which have been, of course, also transmitted by the same Legation to the Right Honourable Earl Russell.

Those two documents show clearly what violent and deplorable events have occurred in Rio Janeiro, subsequent to the extraordinary demands made by the British Legation upon the Imperial Government, of which an account was brought by the last packet from Brazil.

In the first of these notes addressed to the British Minister by his Excellency the Marquis of Abrantes, Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, it is stated word for word as follows:—

"That the Imperial Government, being anxious to avoid the imputation of opposing any peaceful and honourable means of resolving the pending questions; being anxious to contribute, without a breach of national honour and dignity, to promptly putting an end to the difficult situation in which the relations between the two Governments are placed, with serious injury to the large interests which bind the two countries; and finally, as a proof of the full confidence which it has in the justice of its cause,—will be ready, in ratification of what is stated in the note of the 29th of December last respecting the question of the ship 'Prince of Wales,' to issue proper orders to the Minister of Brazil

in London, to the effect that he pay there, under protest, in the terms of the said note the sum which the Government of Her Britannic Majesty shall require.

"And with respect to the officers of the frigate 'Forte,' accepting the intimation made by Mr. Christie in his note of the 1st instant, of an arbitration, the Imperial Government will take care to inform Mr. Christie of the selection of an arbitrator who may judge that question; it being understood that such arbitration shall have to take cognizance, not of the duty of the Imperial Government to put the laws of the country into execution, but only whether, in the mode of applying these laws to the officers of the 'Forte,' there might have been any offence to the British navy.

"Those declarations shall not take effect until the reprisals shall have ceased, and the prizes taken shall be released. Lastly, I must apprise Mr. Christie that if, contrary to what is to be expected, Her Britannic Majesty's Government does not acquiesce in this arrangement, the Imperial Government will maintain its original position, which is, that it will not surrender the honour and dignity of the nation, however it may deplore the evils that may result from this resolution."

The British Minister, in reply to this note, said as follows:—

"Your Excellency may be assured that the reprisals will cease from this moment, and that Admiral Warren will issue orders to release the prizes without delay.

"The Imperial Government, for reasons which, without doubt, it considers plausible, has preferred to pay, under protest, what may be demanded in the question of the 'Prince of Wales,' to the adoption of the suggestion which I made, to submit this question also to an arbitration."

The British Minister said, however, in the same note, that "Her Britannic Majesty's Government will be at liberty to accept or to refuse the proposal of arbitration in the question of the 'Forte.'"

Reprisals having in fact ceased, and the prizes being released, and thus the chief condition contained in the note of the Imperial Government having been fulfilled, the Undersigned has received orders from his Government to address the Right Honourable Lord Russell, in order to learn from his Excellency if the Government of Her Majesty the Queen is disposed to ratify the arrangement made in the terms of the said notes of the 5th January between the Imperial Government and the British Legation, relative to the questions which this arrangement was intended to solve.

If in the affirmative the Undersigned has received instructions to declare to Her Britannic Majesty's Government that His Majesty the King of Belgium is the arbitrator chosen by His Majesty the Emperor, to decide whether, in the mode of applying the law to the officers of the "Forte," there might have been any offence to the British navy. And the Imperial Government firmly trusts that Her Majesty's Government will not hesitate to accept the choice of His Majesty the Emperor, as it has fallen upon His Majesty the King of Belgium.

Finally, as to the question of the ship "Prince of Wales," the Undersigned is authorized, by his Government declining to enter into any liquidation, and under the protests in the terms of the note of the Imperial Government to the British Legation, dated the 29th of December, to deliver to Her Britannic Majesty's Government, in a cheque upon the Bank of England, whatever sum the Government of Her Britannic Majesty may demand in this case.

In making this communication to the Right Honourable Earl Russell, the Undersigned requests his Excellency to be pleased to inform him of the resolution of Her Britannic Majesty's Government in respect to the arrangement made by the said notes of the 5th January; as also if it accepts the arbitrator proposed by His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil.

The Undersigned earnestly hopes for the solution which the importance of the affair requires, and takes, &c.

(Signed) C. MOREIRA.

No. 79.

Earl Russell to M. Moreira.

Foreign Office, February 12, 1863.

THE Undersigned, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in reply to the note of the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, has the honour to inform him that Her Majesty's Government accept the arrangement agreed to by an exchange of notes between the Marquis of

Abrantes and Mr. Christie ; that Her Majesty's Government will fix, as soon as possible, the amount which they consider a just indemnity in the case of the "Prince of Wales ;" that they agree to refer to an arbitrator the question relating the officers of the "Forte" in the terms proposed by the Brazilian Government, namely, whether, in the mode of applying the laws of Brazil to the officers of the "Forte," there has been any offence to the British navy. And finally, Her Majesty's Government accept the King of the Belgians as arbitrator, if His Majesty will deign to consent to act as such.

Her Majesty's Government having accepted the terms agreed upon at Rio Janeiro, are unwilling to discuss the terms of the protest of the Brazilian Government.

The Brazilian Government are persuaded that they have right on their side ; Her Majesty's Government have a similar persuasion in a contrary sense. But Her Majesty's Government wish rather to cultivate good relations for the future than to prolong a controversy as to the past with the Government of the Emperor of Brazil, which has in so many respects a title to the friendship of the British Government.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

RUSSELL.

BRAZIL.

CORRESPONDENCE respecting the Plunder of the Wreck of the British Barque "Prince of Wales," on the Coast of Brazil, in June 1861; and regarding the Ill-treatment of three Officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte" by the Brazilian Police, in June 1862.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1863.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

BRAZIL.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

PLUNDER OF THE WRECK

OF THE

BRITISH BARQUE “PRINCE OF WALES;”

AND THE

ILL-TREATMENT OF OFFICERS

OF

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP “FORTE.”

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

Further Correspondence respecting the Plunder of the Wreck of the British Barque "Prince of Wales," on the Coast of Brazil, in June 1861; and respecting the Ill-treatment of three Officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte" by the Brazilian Police, in June 1862.

No. 1.

The Marquis of Abrantes to Mr. Christie.

[N.B.—This paper was omitted in the papers inclosed in Mr. Christie's despatch of January 8, 1863, and was only received at the Foreign Office on the 21st of February. It should follow Inclosure 16, page 141, in the previous Papers.]

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rio de Janeiro,
January 3, 1863.*

(Translation.)

MR. CHRISTIE, &c., in his note of yesterday received by me at 11 o'clock at night, declares that he does not consider it necessary to continue the discussion of various points which he terms as of little importance.

He further declares that he has seen with satisfaction that the Imperial Government considers his suggestions for facilitating the settlement of the questions which led to reprisals on the part of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, and that he is ready to take into full consideration, and to bring to the knowledge of his Government, any reasonable proposal of that of His Majesty the Emperor; and expresses a desire to confer with me for that purpose.

Fully agreeing with Mr. Christie on the inutility of persevering in the discussion of the points referred to in his note, I will ask his permission to observe that I am not responsible for that discussion.

In regard to the conference wished for by Mr. Christie, I hasten to inform him that it may take place this day, at half-past 5 o'clock in the afternoon, at the house of my residence; and I also hope that Mr. Christie will on that occasion furnish me with the explanation which I asked him for in my note of yesterday, and which I require to place before the Council of State at to-morrow's conference.

I reiterate, &c.
(Signed) MARQUIS OF ABRANTES.

No. 2.

The Marquis of Abrantes to Mr. Christie.

[N.B.—This paper was omitted in the papers inclosed in Mr. Christie's despatch of January 8, 1863, and was only received at the Foreign Office on the 21st of February. It should follow Inclosure 20, page 142.]

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rio de Janeiro,
January 5, 1863.*

(Translation.)

IN compliance with the promise made to Mr. Christie, &c., &c., in my note of the 2nd instant, I come to give him the due reply to the second essential part of his note of the preceding day.

After the receipt of my said note, Mr. Christie addressed to me another, dated the 2nd, [142]

in which it pleased him to signify to me that it would be convenient that we should have a conference.

To that note I replied on the 3rd, hastening to acquaint him that the proposed conference might take place on the same day, at half-past 5 in the afternoon, at the house of my residence.

Mr. Christie, being unwell, could not come to my house, as he sent me word by his Secretary, through whom I also informed Mr. Christie that an identical reason prevented me from calling upon him at the hotel which he inhabits.

Mr. Christie having declared in his note of the 3rd, that, if our meeting were not possible, he was disposed to confer with my Secretary, and I granted the necessary authorization for that purpose.

Fully informed of every thing that passed in that and subsequent conferences, and the Council of State having been consulted, I now transmit to Mr. Christie the promised reply of the Imperial Government.

Willing to avoid that an intention should be attributed to it of opposing any pacific and honourable means of solving the pending questions; wishing to contribute, without a diminution of the national decorum and dignity, to the prompt removal of the difficult situation in which the relations of the Government of His Majesty the Emperor and the Legation of Her Britannic Majesty are at present, to the serious injury of the great interests by which the two countries are bound; and lastly in testimony of the entire confidence which it feels in the justice of its cause, the Imperial Government, in ratifying the declaration made in my note of the 29th of December last, as to the question of the barque "Prince of Wales," will be ready to transmit proper instructions to the Brazilian Minister in London, to deliver, under protest, and in the terms of the said note, whatever sum the Government of Her Britannic Majesty may demand.

And with respect to the question of the officers of the "Forte" frigate, in accepting the suggestions made by Mr. Christie, in his note of the 1st instant, about an arbitration, the Imperial Government will take care to inform Mr. Christie of the choice of an arbitrator to decide this question; it being understood that the arbiter will have to take cognizance, not of the duty of the Imperial Government to cause the laws of the country to be executed, but only of whether, in the mode of the application of these was to the officers of the "Forte," any offence had been given to the British Navy.

These declarations will only have effect when reprisals shall have ceased and the prizes have been released,

I have finally to inform Mr. Christie, that if, contrary to what is to be expected, the Government of Her Britannic Majesty should refuse to acquiesce in this agreement, the Imperial Government will maintain its primitive position, which is that of not sacrificing the national decorum and dignity, however much it may deplore the evils which might result from that resolution.

I renew, &c.
(Signed) MARQUIS OF ABRANTES.

No. 3.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received February 21.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, January 23, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a minute reply to the Memorandum of the Marquis of Abrantes on the question of the officers of the "Forte." On further consideration I have not thought it necessary to furnish the Brazilian Government with a copy of this reply.

Inclosure in No. 3.

Reply to the Brazilian Memorandum on the Question of the Officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte."

Brazilian Memorandum.

1. "HER Britannic Majesty's Legation having complained of the proceeding attributed to the Commandant and soldiers of the detachment at Tijuca towards some officers of the English frigate 'Forte,' the

Mr. Christie's Reply.

1. The affray took place on the 17th of June. I demanded an immediate inquiry on the 23rd, stating the desire of the Admiral that the three officers should be examined without delay, as he was about to leave for

*Brazilian Memorandum.**Mr. Christie's Reply.*

Imperial Government sought for information about the facts of the case, through the means of the competent authorities, in order to be enabled to form a sure judgment respecting the claim, and to resolve according to what might be just, because nobody should be condemned without proofs, and these cannot be substituted by the simple allegations of complainants.

2. "The fact took place in a lonesome situation: it became therefore necessary to put questions to the Commandant and soldiers of this detachment, who in the exercise of their duties practised that fact; premising that the information given by those agents of the public force was confirmed by two persons completely foreign to the question, to wit, Messrs. Bennett and Müller.

3. "Mr. Christie wished to have copies of these inquiries, which were frankly confided to him in the originals. His Excellency soon afterwards transmitted to the Government the contradiction of those inquiries by Messieurs the Chaplain Clemenger, Lieutenant Pringle, and Midshipman Hornby.

4. "Certainly Mr. Christie cannot but acknowledge that however honourable the characters of those persons may be, their allegations are not sufficient for the formation of proofs in a court of justice, although there might be no other proofs to the contrary, because they are produced by the complainants themselves.

"It would be contrary to all principles, and extremely dangerous, to condemn the accused from mere allegations of the accuser.

"If Her Britannic Majesty's Legation places its faith on what the officers of her navy said, there is no reason whatever why the Imperial Government should refuse that of its Agents.

5. "There is, however, the circumstance of the depositions of the Brazilian Agents being corroborated by two completely disinterested witnesses, which upon unprejudiced minds must shed some light over this difficult question, and lead the impartial magistrate to believe it more probable that the truth is on the side that presents declarations of persons absolutely foreign to the fact inquired into.

6. "Mr. Christie complains that no solution has yet been given to his note of the 19th of August. What could the Imperial Government in truth do? There were no more witnesses to be questioned, all possible proofs had been collected, and against these what fresh matter was presented was the contestations of the complainants.

7. "The English officers expressed a

Monte Video, and wished to take the three officers with him. No attention was paid to this; the Admiral was obliged to leave the three officers behind for examination; and after much trouble, reminding, and pressing, I at last succeeded in getting an investigation by the Chief of Police begun on the 2nd of July.

2. The sentry's post, which is close to the Tijuca road, is not a "retired place." Further on in the Memorandum it is correctly stated that "the Tijuca road is one of the most frequented in the suburbs." Of course it was necessary to hear the officer and soldiers, as well as the complainants. There is nothing in Mr. Bennett's evidence to confirm the Brazilian statements.

3. These documents, so "frankly" communicated to me, I had demanded as of right; and they were sent to me in original, because, with a not unusual negligence, nothing had been done by the 2nd of August towards making copies which had been promised me.

4. But a complaint of three officers of Her Majesty's navy is worthy of attention, and even of belief, if there is no trustworthy contrary evidence. There were no independent witnesses of the fray. The German Müller is the only extraneous witness of any part of what happened at the Tijuca guard-house on the first night, and the worth of his evidence can be estimated. There are the Chaplain, a Lieutenant, and a Midshipman of the British navy on one side, against a Brazilian Ensign and four Brazilian soldiers on the other; and if the former are accusers, the latter are accused.

5. That is, there is necessary equality between the three accusers and the five accused; and M. Müller's evidence alone makes it clear that the truth is entirely on the side of the accused.

6. Mr. Christie should in any case have been answered; and if the Brazilian Government were convinced that the complaint was unfounded, why did they not answer to that effect? The natural inference from their not answering was, that they could not defend the proceeding, and were unwilling to disown it.

7. From the 19th of August, when I

*Brazilian Memorandum.**Mr. Christie's Reply.*

desire to be confronted with the German, Müller, whose deposition they rejected. But the Chief of Police reports that, after the 2nd of July, those officers did not appear again at the Department under his charge, even voluntarily leaving off attendance at the interrogatories of Messrs. Bennett and Müller.

"That, however, would not prevent the availing of that recourse again, if therefrom some more elucidation of the question could be obtained.

8. "Having made these preliminary observations upon the generality of the process, it is proper to reply to the divers topics of Mr. Christie's note of the 19th of August last.

9. "He observes that of the four witnesses who circumstantially relate the commencement of the question, only one of them could from his own knowledge, because the others could only repeat what they heard from him, whose testimony they faithfully reproduced.

"It is, however, proper for Mr. Christie to consider that, besides the Commandant of the detachment, four soldiers were interrogated. It is true that the beginning of the conflict was with the sentinel, but it is also true that he immediately called out the guard, and that the other soldiers who were in the guard-house having directly come out, all of them, the Commandant and the soldiers were present at the struggle which followed.

"All the depositions are concordant that the sentry was at his post; that the complaining officers were the aggressors; that even before reaching the detachment they had been troublesome to a patrol which they met on the road, and that in front of the quarters of the detachment they had stopped a passer-by, who was going up the hill on horseback.

"The evident result of these declarations is, that the soldiers and their respective Commandant were present at the conflict, and that their depositions refer to facts of which they were eye-witnesses.

"They are simple facts, and it is no wonder that there should be unanimity in the statements of them made by the witnesses in their generality, although showing different versions respecting secondary circumstances, as is always the case on similar occasions, as, for example, about the precise moment of the conflict, the noise made by the officers in the guard-house, and other facts of minor importance.

10. "Mr. Christie further says, 'The English officers declared that the Commandant only appeared ten minutes after

wrote to the Marquis of Abrantes declaring the desire of the officers to be confronted with Müller, no step was taken by the Chief of Police for bringing them together. The three officers who had been examined on the 2nd of July were not asked to appear on the 4th, when Bennett and Müller were examined, and had no information of the intention to examine them.

8. After all, it is proper to answer my note of the 19th of August, which a little before there was no use in answering.

9. What I said was that, until the others came out, being called out by the sentry, there was only one witness." That the officer appeared at that time is a question in dispute. It is said that all the testimonies agree in saying that the attack began from the British officers; but the beginning of the fray is the very point for which there is only one Brazilian ocular witness, the sentry on guard. It is also said that all agree in saying that the three officers, before their arrival at the guard-house, had annoyed the patrol, and had stopped a gentleman on horseback. Now, only four out of the five speak of these things; and of the four one only professes to speak from personal knowledge of the interference with the patrol, and one only professes to have seen the horseman stopped. The rest simply repeat what they had heard say. The "evident" conclusion, then, of the memorandum is not correct, that "the depositions of the officer and soldiers refer to facts of which they were ocular witnesses." The general agreement is not in the least to be wondered at, because where a witness cannot speak of his own knowledge, he repeats what he has heard from others.

10. It is not very probable that the soldiers would contradict their officer on this point. Of course, the officer might be absent for a

their imprisonment, and that consequently his deposition is not worthy of being credited; because having declared that which he had not previously seen, it is to be supposed that he had declared what he had not afterwards seen; that he was absent when the disturbance began. It is presumable that he himself would not confess a breach of his duty.'

"Not only the declarations of the Commandant, but also those of the soldiers of the detachment, which are all unanimous in stating that, upon the calling of the sentry to arms, the Commandant came out and pacified the officers until they were locked up, are contradicted by the English officers.

"Let Mr. Christie take note that there was no reason why the Commandant, if he had been absent, should not have said so; because he might have absented himself at ten minutes' distance from the guard-house upon any other service, without any blame being imputed to him on this account as a dereliction of his duty.

11. "Mr. Christie regrets that the Chief of Police, in his Report to the Minister of Justice, under date of the 5th of July, should have explained, by the imputation of inebriety, the release of the English officers, and this without any inquiry or justification; and he adds, that that imputation is not mentioned in the Report of the Commandant of the detachment at Tijuca, to the Sub-Delegate of Engenho Velho, the only one that the Chief of Police possessed on that occasion.

"This magistrate declared that he had ordered the release of the officers, finding that there was no matter for a process, because the acts of the said officers were merely the result of the state in which they then were.

"Let Mr. Christie allow me to observe to him that the Chief of Police, although he had not yet commenced a formal inquiry, was already aware that when the conflict took place the officers had just had a pleasure party, after which there is almost always a display of excitement and hilarity, which even happens to the most serious persons, principally to youths, without producing any injury to their character; and therefore it was to this animation that the Chief of Police attributed the proceedings of the officers, being without any reason to suppose that, under other circumstances, they would choose to despise the public force, and much less seriously to attack it.

"He therefore thought that there was no matter for the institution of a process, and ordered the release of the officers; the inquiry which subsequently took place was more

few minutes, with good reason; but if it were otherwise, he would not wish his absence known.

11. It is unnecessary to enter into the question of this indiscreet statement of the Chief of Police, as I have admitted to the Marquis of Abrantes that a serious imputation was not intended, and have, in fact, accepted this explanation.

for the purpose of verifying the proceedings of the agents of the public force than for that of establishing the culpability of the said officers.

12. "Certainly the circumstance of the officers appertaining to Her Britannic Majesty's navy, and the intervention of their superiors and of the respective Consul, had to be taken into consideration by the said Chief of Police; and if he did not sooner order the release of the officers, that is, when solicited by Captain Saumarez, it was because he had not yet received the official Report of the Sub-Delegate, whereby he might learn the reason of the imprisonment, and that the officers were placed at his disposal.

"In his Report of the 5th of July, the Chief of Police did nothing more than reproducing the allegations contained in the inquiry.

13. "The officers deny that they were tipsy, and complain of the imputation. But what did Robert Bennett and Rodolph Müller say in their declarations on this point?

14. "It is comprehensible that in that state the said officers should have proceeded in the manner stated by the witnesses; but it is not explained, nor is it conceivable, that the sentinel, without provocation, should have left his post, which is off the road, to attack three individuals who were quietly passing by on that road.

15. "The Tijuca road is one of the most frequented in the suburbs. The detachment has long existed there, and no representation has been made against acts of violence or exorbitance on the part of the soldiers of which it is composed; which leads to the conclusion that it would not be with the English officers, without provocation, that the first fact should take place.

"It is conceivable that the sentry having been provoked, and a struggle having followed between the English officers and the soldiers of the detachment, it became necessary to make use of some vigour in order to force the said officers into the prison. But that, after being confined, they were treated with urbanity, they themselves acknowledge.

16. "It was certainly from a desire to know the names and qualities of these persons that the Commandant of the detachment sent for an interpreter. How is it, therefore, admissible that, the officers having given their names and qualities in writing, the

11. The Sub-Delegado is in fault for not having sent down his report, stating the charge of the officers, on the morning of the 18th. It was not there when Captain Saumarez went to the police office after 5 P.M., and was not received till the next morning, and indeed bears date the 19th.

13. Mr. Bennett does not say that the officers were under the influence of wine.

14. The attack on the sentry is easily explained. The sentry-box is close to the road, and at a very little higher level. It is off the road, but not retired. The sentry hailed the officers, who, being strangers, did not know the expected reply, or perhaps understand the hail. On the chaplain's approaching the sentry with the words, "Que quiere?" Spanish words not understood by the latter, he (the sentry) proceeded at once, with a not unusual promptitude, to blows.

15. These acts of violence are generally not heard of.

16. The English officers on the one side, and the Brazilian witnesses on the other, are in complete conflict as to the declaration of names and professions. It is asked in the Memorandum what motive could the Brazilian Ensign have for refusing to receive the

Commandant had thrown it on the floor after reading it?

“The English officers say that an Austrian served as an interpreter, and fully explained to the Commandant their quality and profession, and that they replied to all his questions.

“But not only the Commandant and the soldiers deny that such a declaration had been made, but, on the contrary, state that one of the officers having written their names, another of them seized the paper, tore it, and threw it on the ground; also, the very Austrian to whom the officers refer, the interpreter Müller, declared that, on his explaining to the officers the reason why they were imprisoned, and asked them for their names and positions, they sharply answered him, without ever declaring one thing or another.

“It is in some degree to be comprehended that the officers, cowed on finding themselves prisoners, did not choose to reveal their rank and profession, and that they should have satisfied themselves for the time with the threat, which they themselves declare having addressed to the Commandant of the detachment, that they would soon call him to an account for his proceeding.

“On the following day, the officers being sent to the city, the Commandant in his report, which accompanied them, did not mention their names, not having any reason for so doing, but rather full convenience in this declaration, if by chance he had known them.

17. “It was only after they were at the police-office that the British Vice-Consul declared them to be officers of the British navy, when they were immediately transferred from the civil prison to that of the police corps, where they made but a short stay, and were released as soon as the Sub-Delegate placed them at the disposal of the Chief of Police, stating to him the cause of their imprisonment.

18. “Mr. Christie makes the observation that the officers deny their having sticks with them, saying that Mr. Clemenger alone had an umbrella in his hand; whilst in the official despatch addressed to Mr. Christie himself on the 24th of June last, Admiral Warren says that the soldiers took from the officers their umbrellas and sticks.

declaration of the officers, or for denying it. Let it be asked in reply, what could have induced the officers, unless they were idiots, to withhold their names and ranks. Their object was to be released as soon as possible, and, if not released, to be well treated. What more likely to effect their object than to declare their profession? Even had they withheld their names and rank in the evening would they have done so the next morning, when they were to be marched down to Rio on foot as common criminals? The Brazilian story is grossly improbable. It is even denied that they made known their names and ranks when they got to the Rio police office and were thrown into a filthy prison. To believe all this, it must be believed that the three officers are either deliberate liars or idiots. If once we are called upon to conjecture motives, it may be suggested as not improbable in Brazil, that the officer and his guard disregarded the English officers' protestations, hoping to get money from them, and have afterwards denied the declarations which they did not choose to attend to. The Brazilian Ensign admits in his evidence that the officers wrote a letter to the English Consul, which he did not forward. They say they wrote to the Consul and to Captain Saumarez. This writing does not show the desire suggested in the Memorandum for the officers of concealing the trouble they had got into from their authorities. On the other hand, the detention of the letters by the Brazilian Ensign has a very suspicious appearance.

17. It is not true that the officers were transferred to the “Corpo Policial” immediately after the Consul's visit. Mr. Holcombe went to the office a little after 11 A.M., and the officers were not removed to the “Corpo Policial” till between 3 and 4 in the afternoon. Nor is it true that they were kept in the “Corpo Policial” only a short time; they remained there the whole night, and were only set at liberty shortly before noon the next day. It is said later, most incorrectly, that, “as soon as their profession was known, they were immediately released.” According to the Memorandum itself, the British Consul declared their profession when he went to the police office, which was in the forenoon of the 18th, and the officers were not set at liberty till near noon the day following.

18. This remark, which was originally intended to show a contradiction between the officers' statements and the Admiral's, has, by the correction of a mistake which I pointed out, become unmeaning and objectless; and the Marquis of Abrantes would have done well to omit the paragraph. As the passage originally stood, the officers were represented

19. "In their refutation of the Commandant's deposition, the officers said that not one of them carried a metal flask slung with a leather strap over the shoulder, but that Mr. Clemenger had one. It is exactly what the Commandant said, with the addition that the flask contained the remains of liquor, whilst the officers said that it was empty.

20. "The officers further say that they did not skirmish with the Brazilian soldiers, because they do not speak Portuguese. Mr. Christie will, however, grant that it was not on this account that the officers would cease to deride them; as well as, that notwithstanding their ignorance of the language of the country, they themselves declare having given the Commandant to understand that they would ere long call him to account for his behaviour.

21. "The officers deny everything besides that the witnesses said against them. But Mr. Christie will have the goodness to consider that the denials of interested parties cannot be admitted as proofs in a Court of Justice, nor neutralize the depositions of witnesses who are impartial, in adding that the allegations of the officers do not appear to be very probable.

22. "The complaint would be held reasonable if, from the dress, or any other declaration, it were known that the said officers belonged to the British navy; but, quite on the contrary, it appears that they were dressed in plain clothes, and that they made no declaration. It finally appears that as soon as their quality was known they were immediately released, there being otherwise no matter for addressing a communication to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation on this subject.

"The Imperial Government, from the foregoing explanation, does not doubt that Mr. Christie, impartially appreciating this frank and loyal statement, will deem it convenient to reconsider the subject of the present claim.

"December 27, 1862."

as denying that they had sticks. I showed the Marquis that they only denied having used them, and that it was only said of Mr. Clemenger, the Chaplain, that he had no stick, but simply an umbrella. All contradiction, therefore, with the Admiral's statement that the officers' sticks were taken from them is at an end.

19. This is an unsuccessful attempt to show a contradiction. What the officers say is, that none of them carried a flask slung over the shoulder, but that Mr. Clemenger carried one in his pocket. There is no contradiction in this.

20. It must be admitted that the officers might have attempted to make fun of the Brazilian guard with their small stock of Spanish, by which they tried to convey a threat; but the threat they probably regarded as more urgent than ridicule; and jokes, to be effective, must be well expressed.

21. The accused Brazilians are much more interested in defending themselves than could be the accusers in complaining, and there is only one extraneous witness, Müller.

22. Persons in plain clothes are not to be assaulted and then arrested without cause; though in plain clothes, they did not cease to be officers. It cannot be considered proved that they refused to give their names and profession; and even admitting that these were not made known till Mr. Acting Consul Hollocombe went to the police-office in the forenoon of the 18th (and the Memorandum admits that they were then made known), it is not true that the officers were even then immediately released. They were detained nearly twenty-four hours afterwards.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.
January 18, 1863.

Errata requested by Mr. Christie to be Corrected in his Despatches, printed in the Papers presented to Parliament on the 19th of February.

Page 52, line 24 from top :—For “ Monday, the 24th,” read “ Monday, the 23rd.”

Page 52, line 19 from bottom :—For “ On the 1st July,” read “ On the 29th June.”

Page 52, line 11 from bottom :—For “ On the 4th July,” read “ On the 2nd July.”

Page 143, line 15 from bottom :—For “ Of yesterday’s date,” read “ Of to-day’s date.”

Further Correspondence respecting the Plunder of
the Wreck of the British Barque "Prince of
Wales," on the Coast of Brazil, in June 1861;
and respecting the Ill-treatment of three Officers
of Her Majesty's ship "Forte" by the Brazilian
Police, in June 1862.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1863.*

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BRAZIL.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

PLUNDER OF THE WRECK

OF THE

BRITISH BARQUE “PRINCE OF WALES.”

(In continuation of Correspondence presented to Parliament
February 26, 1863.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

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Further Correspondence respecting the Plunder of the Wreck of the British barque "Prince of Wales," on the Coast of Brazil, in June 1861.

No. 1.

M. Moreira to Earl Russell.—(Received February 27.)

(Translation.)

Brazilian Legation, London, February 26, 1863.

THE Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note addressed to him this day by his Excellency Earl Russell, &c., and hastens to transmit to his Excellency a cheque for the sum of 3,200*l.* on the Bank of England, which Her Britannic Majesty's Government has fixed for the shipwreck of the "Prince of Wales."

This payment being made, it is now the imperative duty of the Undersigned to do what he already had the honour to announce in his note of the 9th instant to the Right Honourable Earl Russell, that is to say, to declare that His Majesty the Emperor, in making this payment to Her Britannic Majesty's Government, does not recognize in any manner the right or justice on the part of the British Government to pretend to make the Imperial Government responsible for the wreck of the ship "Prince of Wales" on the coast of Brazil, inasmuch as the Imperial Government used all the means in its power to punish the supposed malefactors, and sincerely and loyally made all possible efforts to demonstrate the invalidity of the claim which the British Legation at Rio de Janeiro put forward in this affair.

And the Imperial Government, being thus fully convinced of the right which appertains to it, declares,—

1. That it cannot and ought not to assent to the unusual principles which it is pretended to establish against it on the occasion of this shipwreck, nor can it accept the responsibility thrown upon it, against all which it loudly and categorically protests.

2. That, therefore, it refuses, as it has already refused, to consent to and take part in the liquidation of the losses suffered by the owners of the shipwrecked vessel, or of any compensation for the damages which resulted from that shipwreck; and thus, likewise, the Imperial Government absolutely declines to take cognizance of the fact that the British Government abstains from making any pecuniary claim for the ship or freight, as declared in the note to which the Undersigned is now replying.

3. Lastly, that in transmitting to Her Britannic Majesty's Government the aforesaid sum of 3,200*l.* for the shipwreck of the "Prince of Wales," the Undersigned declares, in the name of his Government, that this payment thus made to the British Government is made solely in consequence of the illegal and violent proceedings committed upon Brazilian ships in the territorial waters of the Empire, and is the simple result of force, without in any way implying the admission of right or justice on the part of the British Government. Wherefore it will never be possible, by this payment, to establish a precedent against Brazil or any other maritime nation, inasmuch as the Imperial Government does not recognize the right of such act, but, on the contrary, most formally and solemnly protests against it and its consequences.

The Undersigned, in making this protest to Her Britannic Majesty's Government, for the due effect thereof, reserves, in the meantime, the right of claiming, in the name of his Government, satisfaction for the violation of its territorial sovereignty, in consequence of five vessels belonging to Brazilians having been captured and held as prizes in the territorial waters of the Empire, by way of reprisals, by ships of war of the British navy; as also an indemnification for the damages resulting from the said capture, against all which the Undersigned now protests; and he takes, &c.

(Signed)

C. MOREIRA.

*Earl Russell to M. Moreira.**Foreign Office, February 28, 1863.*

THE Undersigned, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, acknowledges the receipt of a cheque on the Bank of England for the sum of 3,200/.

The Undersigned would have gladly confined himself to this simple acknowledgment had not Senhor Moreira, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, in transmitting the cheque, made various statements which it is the duty of the Undersigned not to leave uncontradicted.

The first of these statements is, that the said sum of 3,200/ is a sum "which Her Britannic Majesty's Government has fixed for the shipwreck of the 'Prince of Wales.'" The Undersigned has already informed M. Moreira that no sum is claimed for the loss of the ship "Prince of Wales," nor for the freight of the cargo. The sum is claimed for the shameful plunder of the cargo, and for the negligence shown by the Brazilian authorities in their inquiries to ascertain the delinquency of the supposed malefactors. When Mr. Consul Vereker arrived on the coast on the 16th of June, eight or nine days after the shipwreck, finding that eight or ten dead bodies were said to be on shore, he requested the Municipal Judge to proceed to an inquest on the bodies, but he declined to do so. The Consul attributes this refusal to the presence of Senhor Faustino, the Inspector of the District, with an armed force which outnumbered that accompanying the Municipal Judge. There was at once a failure of justice. Had the eight or ten bodies been at once produced, and had those bodies been examined, it would have been ascertained whether there were any marks of violence upon them: and as they were withheld for a considerable period, until the bodies were in a state of decomposition, the cause of death could not be ascertained.

Had a Brazilian ship been wrecked on the coast of Cornwall, and dead bodies been found on the shore, the Coroner of the district would at once have had the dead bodies produced, and would have held his inquest upon them.

Had any Magistrate appeared with an armed force to prevent or control such inquest, twenty-four hours would not have elapsed before that Magistrate would have been dismissed, and a military force would have been sent to protect the judicial proceedings of the Coroner.

The Undersigned will not enter further into the case. The circumstances are well summed up in a letter of Rear-Admiral Warren to Mr. Christie, dated September 23, 1862, contained in the papers respecting this case presented to Parliament by Her Majesty's command (page 96).

The shipwreck took place in June 1861. At the end of the year 1862, Her Majesty's Government having been mocked for eighteen months by the evasions, subterfuges, and unfounded assertions of the Brazilian authorities, Her Majesty's naval squadron proceeded to enforce the moderate demands of Her Majesty's Government.

These proceedings have been conducted according to the rules of international law, after a long period of patience and forbearance.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

RUSSELL.

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BRAZIL.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

PLUNDER OF THE WRECK

OF THE

BRITISH BARQUE “PRINCE OF WALES;”

AND THE

ILL-TREATMENT OF OFFICERS

OF

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP “FORTE.”

(In continuation of previous Correspondence presented to Parliament on the
19th and 26th of February, and the 2nd of March, 1863.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

LONDON:

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Further Correspondence respecting the Plunder of the Wreck of the British Barque "Prince of Wales," on the Coast of Brazil, in June 1861; and respecting the Ill-treatment of three Officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte" by the Brazilian Police, in June 1862.

No. 1.

*Earl Russell to M. Moreira.**

M. le Ministre,

Foreign Office, February 24, 1863.

WITH reference to your note of the 9th instant, I have the honour to state to you that, upon considering the amount to be claimed on account of the "Prince of Wales," Her Majesty's Government have decided to refrain from making any claim on account of the vessel, or account of freight.

The amount of compensation for the plunder of the cargo, the loss of the effects of the crew, and on other accounts, is estimated by Her Majesty's Government at 3,200*l*.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 2.

Earl Russell to Lord Howard de Walden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 27, 1863.

I HAVE to acquaint your Lordship that Her Majesty's Government have with extreme regret lately found it necessary to have recourse to measures of reprisal in consequence of the refusal of the Brazilian Government to concede the satisfaction required by Her Majesty's Government in two cases where British interests have called for their interposition.

The matters to which I allude are: first, the case of the British vessel "Prince of Wales" wrecked on the Brazilian coast; and, secondly, an outrage committed by Brazilian authorities on some officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte."

It is unnecessary for me to enter at length into the details of these cases. Your Lordship will learn how the matter now stands from my correspondence with M. de Moreira, of which copies are herewith inclosed, and from which you will see that while the Brazilian Government have virtually conceded the demands of Her Majesty's Government, so far as the case of the "Prince of Wales" is concerned, they have proposed that the question regarding the officers of the "Forte" should be referred to the arbitration of the King of the Belgians, for His Majesty's decision whether, in the mode of applying the laws of Brazil to the case of the officers of the "Forte," there has been any offence to the British navy.

Her Majesty's Government have acceded to the proposal thus made for referring this point for the decision of the King of the Belgians; and I have to instruct your Lordship to ascertain from M. Rogier whether His Majesty will deign to undertake this arbitration.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

* This note should have followed, in order of date, the correspondence presented to Parliament on the 19th of February.

No. 3.

M. Moreira to Earl Russell.—(Received March 3.)

(Translation.)

Imperial Legation of Brazil. London, March 2, 1863.

THE Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor, has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note dated the 28th of February, and not received till yesterday, addressed to him by his Excellency Earl Russell, &c., and considers it his duty to reply to his Excellency immediately as follows:—

It was agreed to by the notes exchanged between the Imperial Government and the British Legation in Rio de Janeiro, that the payment to the British Government through this Legation should be made under protest.

According to all the customs and usages observed in similar cases, when one Government protests against the acts of another, the latter is formally held to acknowledge the receipt of the protest, in order that this document may remain in the international records, for future purposes and proper effects. But the Undersigned observes that the Right Honourable Earl Russell on this occasion, in his note of the 28th of February, merely acknowledges the receipt of the sum which the Undersigned paid to him, without acknowledging at the same time the receipt of the protest which accompanied that payment.

It is therefore the duty of the Undersigned to ask Earl Russell to have the goodness to acknowledge the receipt of the said protest, when he finds it convenient, for the completion of this transaction.

In regard to the observations which Earl Russell makes in his note of the 28th of February, the Undersigned has to consider that these observations are wholly and entirely founded on or originating in declarations made, suspicions entertained, and inferences deduced by Consul Vereker, and that they have all been answered and denied, or refuted and explained, by the Imperial Government in its correspondence with the British Legation, as Earl Russell will find recapitulated in the Memorandum of Senhor Marquis de Abrantes which accompanied his Excellency's note to Mr. Christie of the 29th of December, 1862 (page 121 of the Correspondence presented to Parliament). In that Memorandum there is a clear narration and a succinct summary of the facts, removing and destroying the allegations contained in the letter of Vice-Admiral Warren, who had no personal knowledge of the facts, and who wrote merely under the impressions produced by the report of Consul Vereker.

The statements of this Consul are a series of unfounded deductions, and of unjust suspicions against the Brazilian authorities, and against the forms of the process. It is the duty of the Undersigned to say to the Right Honourable Earl Russell that the strength of these suspicions ought to be, at least, mitigated in the estimation of the British Government, when the latter remembers that Mr. Vereker also went so far as to conceive suspicions of the inhabitants of Rio Grande having conspired against his life, and that Mr. Christie, after having communicated personally with the Consul, considered it his duty to declare to the Government of Brazil that he was convinced that Mr. Vereker laboured under an illusion, and that his apprehensions were without foundation.

It is not, then, improbable that Consul Vereker's illusions were not confined to so scandalous an imputation against a people among whom he had lived for many years with all security and hospitality; but that they likewise extended to other accusations made by him in the course of this affair.

It is certain that Consul Vereker attributes the fact that no examination was made of the bodies that were found there on the first occasion, to the superiority of the armed force which escorted the Inspector of the Quarter, to the force which had accompanied the Municipal Judge of the place where the wreck occurred; and it was owing to this impression that the Consul himself thought it better to return to Rio Grande in order to begin the trial there immediately, without its being possible notwithstanding to impute any blame to the Municipal Judge, as the said Consul confesses (page 3 of the Correspondence). But in opposition to this suspicious and unfounded inference, the Memorandum of the Marquis d'Abrantes (page 125 of the Correspondence) shows clearly that the force at the disposal of the Inspector on this occasion for the police of the place of the shipwreck, was not superior to the number of persons and force which accompanied the Municipal Judge.

The inference, therefore, of Consul Vereker cannot be drawn from the alleged apprehension of superior force, because that fact is supported only by this declaration of his, which is incorrect. And so unfounded was that apprehension of superior force, that the Municipal Judge, in accordance with the Consul, proceeded to make a search of some suspected houses, in doing which the Consul himself was not afraid of accompanying the

Inspector of the Quarter, to search, with him and some soldiers, another neighbouring district, as he himself states.

Consequently there was not, at the very first, that want of justice which the Right Honourable Earl Russell supposes.

His Excellency suggests what would have occurred if a Brazilian ship had been wrecked on the coast of Cornwall. No doubt the English laws would have been carried out in such case; but in the case of the "Prince of Wales" the laws of Brazil were equally carried out, with as much vigour and promptitude as the locality and the circumstances permitted. Examinations were made on as many bodies as it was possible to discover, and the verdict was, suffocation by drowning. Five inquests were held successively by different authorities. Consul Vereker might have been present at all these investigations; at some of them he was not present, and he did not appear at the most important of them, although formally invited to do so. A functionary was dismissed by the Imperial Government; eleven persons were tried and sentenced; and the trial was going on in accordance with the law, when the British Minister had recourse to the violence which is now known to all.

Consequently the Undersigned cannot admit the justice of Earl Russell's language when he talks of the negligence of the Brazilian authorities.

And in view of these long-continued efforts to obtain the punishment of the supposed criminals, the Undersigned rejects the responsibility which the British Government, by means of force, imposes on the Government of Brazil; and the Undersigned, consequently, can consider such responsibility solely as arising from the wreck of the "Prince of Wales."

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

C. MOREIRA.

No. 4.

Earl Russell to M. Moreira.

Foreign Office, March 4, 1863.

THE Undersigned, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has had the honour to receive the protest which, in the name of his Government, M. Moreira, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, transmitted to the Undersigned on the 26th ultimo.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

RUSSELL.

No. 5.

Lord Howard de Walden to Earl Russell.—(Received March 5.)

My Lord,

Brussels, March 4, 1863.

ON the receipt of your Lordship's instructions conveyed in your despatch of the 27th February, I immediately went to the Foreign Office, in the hope of seeing M. Rogier. His Excellency was, however, at the Chamber, and not likely to return to the office. I, therefore, at once addressed to him a note (of which I inclose a copy) requesting him to inform me whether His Majesty the King of the Belgians would deign to undertake an arbitration between Her Majesty's Government and that of Brazil.

The Brazilian Minister had just called on me to inform me that he could not further delay taking the initiative, as no reference had been made in his instructions to any concerted action with me, and as M. Rogier, on his part, saw no object in his doing so.

I have this morning received an answer from M. Rogier, of which I inclose a copy, announcing to me that the King of the Belgians accepts the functions of arbitration which he has been solicited by Great Britain and Brazil to undertake in regard to the occurrences which have provoked the misunderstanding between the two Governments.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HOWARD DE WALDEN AND SEAFORD.

Lord Howard de Walden to M. Rogier.

M. le Ministre,

Brussels, March 3, 1863.

HER Majesty's Government have with extreme regret lately found it necessary to have recourse to measures of reprisal in consequence of the refusal of the Brazilian Government to concede the satisfaction required by Her Majesty's Government in two cases where British interests have called for their interposition.

The matters in question are—

First, the case of the "Prince of Wales," a British vessel wrecked on the Brazilian coast; and

Secondly, an outrage committed by Brazilian authorities on some officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte."

Your Excellency will learn how the matter now stands from the copies of notes which have passed between Earl Russell and M. de Morcira, of which copies are herewith inclosed, and from which you will see that, while the Brazilian Government have virtually conceded the demands of Her Majesty's Government so far as the case of the "Prince of Wales" is concerned, they have proposed that the question regarding the officers of the "Forte" should be referred to the arbitration of the King of the Belgians, for His Majesty's decision whether, in the mode of applying the laws of Brazil to the case of the officers of the "Forte," there has been any offence to the British navy.

Her Majesty's Government have acceded to the proposal thus made for referring this point for the decision of the King of the Belgians. I have, therefore, been instructed to ascertain from your Excellency whether His Majesty will deign to undertake this arbitration.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWARD DE WALDEN AND SEAFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 5.

M. Rogier to Lord Howard de Walden.

My Lord,

Bruxelles, le 3 Mars, 1863.

JE me suis empressé de porter à la connaissance du Roi mon auguste Souverain le contenu de la communication que votre Excellence m'a adressée sous la date du 28 Février, au sujet de l'arbitrage déferé à Sa Majesté par les Cabinets de St. James et de Rio de Janeiro.

D'après les ordres du Roi j'ai l'honneur de vous informer, my Lord, que Sa Majesté accepte la tâche que l'Angleterre et le Brésil veulent lui confier, et qu'elle cherchera à remplir les fonctions d'arbitre avec conscience et impartialité.

En m'acquittant de ce soin, je saisis, &c.

(Signé)

CH. ROGIER.

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BRAZIL.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH THE

MINISTER OF BRAZIL,

REGARDING THE

**SATISFACTION DEMANDED BY THE
BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT**

FOR

THE LATE REPRISALS.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

LONDON:
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Correspondence with the Minister of Brazil, regarding the
Satisfaction demanded by the Brazilian Government for the
late Reprisals:

No. 1.

M. Moreira to Earl Russell.—(Received May 6.)

(Translation from the Portuguese, as communicated by M. Moreira.)

Légation Impériale du Brésil, Londres, le 5 Mai, 1863.

LE Soussigné, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Brésil, en adressant la présente note, en obéissance aux ordres de son auguste Souverain, au Très Honorable Comte Russell, Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique au Département des Affaires Etrangères, croit devoir commencer par déclarer que l'intention du Gouvernement Impérial n'est point de rouvrir une question qui a donné lieu à une différence profonde d'opinion entre les deux Gouvernements quant à leur appréciation respective des circonstances qui ont précédé le recours aux représailles, mais d'appeler l'attention du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique sur la manière dont ces représailles ont été exécutées et sur l'effet naturel de ce déploiement imprévu de force navale.

Les faits sur lesquels se fonde la présente réclamation sont notoires.

Du 31 Décembre au 6 Janvier derniers le port de Rio de Janeiro et le pavillon national dans ce port ont été, pour rester dans les termes mêmes du rapport adressé à ce sujet au Très Honorable Comte Russell, "virtuellement bloqués" par une croisière Anglaise. Pendant que le vaisseau Amiral restait posté dans l'intérieur du port, et que, d'après la correspondance présentée au Parlement, la descente des soldats de marine dans la capitale elle-même était préméditée, un autre navire à vapeur donnait en dehors la chasse aux bâtiments de commerce Brésiliens dans les eaux territoriales de l'Empire.

Cinq bâtiments capturés dans ces circonstances ont été consignés et tenus sous la garde d'un navire de guerre, à peu de distance de la capitale, dans la baie "das Palmas," convertie ainsi en dépôt de prises.

Ces faits, tels qu'ils se sont passés, ne sont et ne peuvent être considérés que comme des actes de guerre, contraires à la nature des représailles en temps de paix, contraires mêmes aux proclamations des Agents Britanniques, lesquelles se bornaient à annoncer des représailles dans les limites d'un état de paix ("within the bounds of a state of peace.") Ils constituent enfin une offense gratuite, attendu que d'après la note du Ministre des Affaires Etrangères du Brésil en date du 29 Décembre, la moindre démonstration de force en dehors des limites de la souveraineté de l'Empire eût suffi pour assurer, sous protestation, au Gouvernement Anglais le résultat qu'il avait en vue d'obtenir.

Les circonstances qui ont accompagné les actes auxquels le Gouvernement Britannique a cru devoir recourir, leur ont imprimé le caractère d'une agression de guerre, qui ne pouvait manquer de blesser profondément les légitimes susceptibilités de la nation Brésilienne, excitées par une invasion aussi inattendu de son territoire, et de provoquer de la part du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté l'Empereur une juste demande en réparation de l'atteinte portée à la souveraineté nationale.

D'autre part, les sujets Brésiliens ont eu à souffrir dans leur propriété, de l'exécution de ces actes, par suite de la saisie des cinq bâtiments sur lesquels ont eu lieu les représailles. Sans recourir à d'autres arguments le Soussigné n'a qu'à en référer à la correspondance présentée au Parlement. La dépêche du Très Honorable Comte Russell datée du 8 Novembre, 1862, spécifie que les navires retenus seront

restitués sans dommages ("uninjured"). La même déclaration se retrouve dans les instructions données pour l'exécution des représailles par l'Amiral Warren, le 31 Décembre, 1862. Ces documents seuls suffisent pour justifier la demande en réparation, car ils renferment implicitement le droit qu'ont les parties lésées à demander la dite réparation.

Le Soussigné connaît trop bien l'idée élevée que les hommes d'Etat de l'Angleterre ont des exigences de la dignité et de l'honneur national pour douter un moment que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, prenant en considération les griefs ci-dessus exposés, ne sente, et ne soit disposé à reconnaître la justice de la double réclamation qui fait l'objet spécial de la présente note.

Le Gouvernement Impérial désire la continuation de ses relations amicales avec le Gouvernement Britannique, mais dans des termes honorables pour les deux pays. De son côté, dans une de ses notes précédentes, le Très Honorable Comte Russell a exprimé de la part du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique le désir semblable de cultiver ces mêmes rapports. Les deux Gouvernements étant animés de pareils sentiments, le Soussigné, au nom du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté l'Empereur, a l'honneur de soumettre au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique ce qui pourrait être une solution satisfaisante de la présente difficulté :—

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique exprimerait son regret des faits qui ont accompagné les représailles, et déclarerait qu'il n'a pas eu l'intention d'offenser la dignité ni de violer la souveraineté territoriale de l'Empire.

Quant aux dommages résultant de la saisie des bâtiments, il consentirait à faire droit à la réclamation faite en faveur des intéressés, moyennant liquidation arbitrale.

Le Soussigné ayant ainsi exécuté les ordres qu'il a reçus, attend avec confiance la réponse de son Excellence le Très Honorable Comte Russell. Il espère qu'il sera assez heureux pour pouvoir annoncer au Gouvernement Impérial le dénouement favorable d'une situation si préjudiciable aux intérêts et aux relations des deux pays.

Le Soussigné, &c.

(Signé)

C. MOREIRA.

No. 2.

Earl Russell to M. Moreira.

Foreign Office, May 19, 1863.

THE Undersigned, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has had the honour to receive the note which M. Moreira, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, addressed to him on the 5th instant.

In the beginning of that note M. Moreira commences by declaring that it is not the intention of the Brazilian Government to re-open a question which has occasioned a serious difference of opinion between the two Governments as to their respective appreciation of the circumstances which preceded the recourse to reprisals.

At the end of this note M. Moreira expresses a desire for the continuance of friendly relations with the British Government on terms honourable to the two countries.

Such being the desire of both countries, Her Majesty's Government must decline to re-open any part of the questions which occasioned serious differences between Great Britain and Brazil, and they are clearly of opinion that it would be impossible for them without doing so to enter into any question as to the propriety or execution of the reprisals to which Her Majesty's Government deemed it necessary to have recourse.

The object of Her Majesty's Government in ordering the measures in question was simply to obtain satisfaction to which they deemed themselves entitled, and they were not actuated by any feeling unfriendly to the Emperor of Brazil nor by any designs of aggression upon His Imperial Majesty's territory. The Undersigned, therefore, suggests to M. Moreira that he should convey to His Government the expression of these sentiments of the British Government towards Brazil as a sufficient and satisfactory reply to the note which M. Moreira has been instructed to present.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

RUSSELL.

M. Moreira to Earl Russell.—(Received May 25.)

(Translation from the Portuguese, as communicated by M. Moreira.)

Légation du Brésil, Londres, le 25 Mai, 1863.

LE Soussigné, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Brésil, a l'honneur d'accuser réception de la note que le Très Honorable Comte Russell, Principal Secrétaire d'État pour les Affaires Étrangères de Sa Majesté la Reine de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, lui a adressée en date du 18 courant, et il se voit obligé tout d'abord de déclarer que la note de son Excellence ne contient pas la réparation que le Gouvernement Impérial croit être en droit d'attendre du Gouvernement Britannique; qu'elle ne peut être acceptée comme une réponse suffisante et satisfaisante aux demandes de la note du 5 courant; et que le refus péremptoire non seulement de faire droit aux réclamations y énoncées, mais même de les prendre en considération, ne fait qu'aggraver, si c'est possible, l'offense faite au Gouvernement du Brésil.

Lorsque le Soussigné, en exposant les griefs du Gouvernement Impérial, dans la dite note du 5 courant protestait en même temps, comme l'a remarqué le Très Honorable Comte Russell, contre toute intention de rouvrir les questions qui ont précédé le recours aux représailles, il n'avait pour but que de faciliter la solution des difficultés en renfermant sa réclamation dans des limites bien définies, en ne rappelant que les faits simples, précis, suffisant en eux-mêmes pour les justifier, et en la séparant de tout ce qui avait fait l'objet de discussions antérieures.

C'était dans le même esprit de conciliation qu'il faisait allusion au désir exprimé par les deux Gouvernements de conserver de bonnes relations dans des termes honorables pour tous les deux. Cependant le Très Honorable Comte Russell n'a trouvé dans la déclaration de ces dispositions, dans l'expression de ces sentiments, qu'un motif pour se refuser à l'examen des faits qui lui ont été soumis et pour écarter sommairement le droit que le Gouvernement Impérial s'était formellement réservé quand il s'était vu forcé de payer sous protestation la somme que le Gouvernement Britannique avait exigée pour le naufrage de la barque le "Prince of Wales" (note du 26 Février, 1863), et aujourd'hui que le Gouvernement Impérial poursuit l'exercice de son droit ainsi réservé, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique refuse d'entrer dans aucune discussion relative à la convenance ("propriety") ou à l'exécution des représailles, alléguant l'impossibilité de le faire sans rouvrir les questions qui ont soulevé de sérieux différends entre les deux Gouvernements.

Le Soussigné trahirait son devoir s'il sacrifiait ainsi le droit de son Gouvernement en admettant l'identité de faits qui par leur nature ne forment point une question indivisible.

La réserve conciliante de la note du 5 courant en ce qui concerne les questions antérieures aux représailles ne peut en aucune manière justifier le refus d'examiner, dans le but de les réparer, les griefs qui ont résulté ultérieurement des mesures adoptées dans l'exécution des dites représailles—deux points entièrement différents.

Les questions antérieures aux représailles portent sur les faits du naufrage de la barque le "Prince of Wales," de l'emprisonnement des officiers de la "Forte," et sur l'appréciation des circonstances de ces deux événements qui a profondément divisé les deux Gouvernements, et donné lieu à la correspondance volumineuse présentée au Parlement.

Les procédés qui ont accompagné l'exécution de ces mesures sont, il est nécessaire de le répéter, le blocus du port de Rio de Janeiro et du pavillon national dans ce port du 31 Décembre, 1862, au 6 Janvier, 1863; l'attitude menaçante du vaisseau Amiral dans l'intérieur du port; le débarquement prémédité des soldats de marine, dans la capitale elle-même; la croisière faite dans les eaux territoriales de l'Empire; la prise de cinq bâtiments marchands tenus sous la garde d'un navire de guerre de la marine Anglaise à peu de distance de la capitale dans la baie de "las Palmas," convertie ainsi en dépôt de prises.

C'est cette série d'actes de guerre pratiqués dans un état de profonde paix, actes aussi offensifs que superflus; ce sont ces représailles prétendues "pacifiques," avec lesquelles on a fermé toute discussion entre les deux Gouvernements, qui établissent le droit du Gouvernement Impérial à la réparation demandée dans la note du 5 courant, droit que rien ne saurait infirmer, quelles que soient d'ailleurs les raisons qui aient pu amener le Gouvernement Britannique à avoir recours à l'expédient de la force.

En refusant de faire droit à la réclamation du Gouvernement Impérial, le Très Honorable Comte Russell rejette, il est vrai, au nom du Gouvernement Britannique, toute intention d'offenser l'Empereur du Brésil, et toute idée d'agression du territoire de Sa Majesté Impériale au moment où fut expédié l'ordre d'avoir recours aux représailles. Mais de pareilles dispositions de la part du Gouvernement Britannique, à cette époque, lui imposent aujourd'hui l'obligation de faire droit aux justes plaintes du Gouvernement Impérial quand celui-ci lui démontre que la manière dont ces ordres ont été exécutés constitue une grave offense à la dignité nationale et à la souveraineté territoriale de l'Empire. C'est cependant ce que le Très-Honorable Comte Russell semble ne vouloir point admettre.

Ce n'est pas contre les intentions qu'avait le Gouvernement Britannique quand il a préparé les dépêches ordonnant les représailles que le Gouvernement Impérial vient réclamer ; ce qu'il désire c'est d'obtenir réparation pour des actes que la note du 18 courant prouve être en désaccord avec les sentiments et les vues du Gouvernement Britannique.

Le Soussigné admet que les ordres du Gouvernement Britannique, comme le déclare son Excellence, n'allaient pas jusqu'à violer le territoire Brésilien, ni jusqu'à porter atteinte à la dignité nationale ; mais il est incontestable, et le Très Honorable Comte ne le conteste pas, que ce double fait a eu lieu dans l'exécution de ces mêmes ordres.

Une représentation formelle de la part du Gouvernement Impérial a porté à la connaissance du Gouvernement Britannique le véritable caractère de ces actes, exécutés en contradiction flagrante avec ses ordres et ses intentions, et cependant le Soussigné ne saurait découvrir dans la note du Très Honorable Comte Russell la moindre expression de regret, la moindre disposition à donner satisfaction pour une offense à laquelle le Gouvernement Impérial ne veut et ne doit pas se soumettre.

Aussi, tout en tenant compte des intentions exprimées par le Très Honorable Comte Russell dans sa note du 18 courant, le Soussigné se trouve dans la nécessité de déclarer qu'elle laisse subsister toute entière une offense dont elle semble méconnaître la gravité. Il ne saurait donc accepter la suggestion de son Excellence de communiquer la dite note au Gouvernement Impérial.

Le Gouvernement Impérial avait d'abord espéré que le Gouvernement Britannique, plus amplement informé, se montrerait disposé à lui rendre justice, en s'abstenant de ratifier les procédés exorbitants de sa Légation à Rio de Janeiro ; son espoir a été déçu, mais il ne s'attendait pas à se voir refuser la réparation qu'il était fondé à demander pour les actes de violence gratuite contre une nation amie, actes que le Gouvernement Britannique n'aurait tolérés à aucun prix de la part d'aucune Puissance au monde. La supériorité de forces ne saurait constituer un privilège en dehors du droit et de la justice.

Maintenant, en présence de la note du Très Honorable Comte Russell, le Soussigné doit considérer comme un fait accompli le refus formel du Gouvernement Britannique de faire droit aux réclamations formulées conformément aux instructions de son Gouvernement, instructions dont il a eu l'honneur de faire connaître la portée au Très Honorable Comte Russell dans la conférence où il lui a remis la note du 5 courant.

Dans la situation où ce refus l'a placé, il ne lui reste plus qu'à déclarer, en obéissance aux ordres de Sa Majesté l'Empereur, au Très Honorable Comte Russell que le Gouvernement Impérial ne pouvant consentir à rester sous le coup d'une offense irréparable, cède à la nécessité d'interrompre ses relations avec le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique. Il a donc l'honneur d'informer son Excellence que ses fonctions officielles cessent dès à présent, et la prie de vouloir bien lui faire tenir les passeports nécessaires pour lui, pour sa famille, et le personnel de sa Légation.

Le Soussigné, &c.

(Signé)

C. MOREIRA.

No. 4.

Earl Russell to M. Moreira.

Foreign Office, May 28, 1863.

THE Undersigned, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has the honour to acknowledge the note of the Commander Moreira, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil of the 25th instant.

The Undersigned regrets to find that the Minister of His Imperial Majesty is not satisfied with the explanation which the Undersigned has already offered.

The Undersigned must repeat that both in the original orders for reprisals, and in the execution of those orders, nothing else was in view but to obtain reparation which friendly representation had failed to obtain for acts which in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government made reparation necessary, and that those orders were not dictated by any desire to offend the dignity or to make any aggression on the territories of the Emperor of Brazil. That which justified the orders of Her Majesty's Government justified also, in their opinion, the measures taken in execution of those orders.

As, however, the Minister of the Emperor of Brazil appears to have positive instructions to ask for his passports, the Undersigned in complying with that request can only regret this needless interruption of diplomatic relations.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

RUSSELL.

BRAZIL.

CORRESPONDENCE with the Minister of Brazil,
regarding the Satisfaction demanded by the Bra-
zilian Government for the late Reprisals.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1863.*

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BRAZIL.

INSTRUCTIONS

ADDRESSED TO

HER MAJESTY'S CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES

IN

BRAZIL,

RESPECTING THE

SUSPENSION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

WITH

GREAT BRITAIN.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

Instructions addressed to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in
Brazil respecting the Suspension of Diplomatic Relations
with Great Britain.

Earl Russell to Mr. Eliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 6, 1863.

I INCLOSE a correspondence which has lately passed between the Commander Moreira, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, and me.*

You will perceive that M. de Moreira has broken off his diplomatic relations, not on the ground of the orders given by Her Majesty's Government in October last to Her Majesty's Envoy, and to the Admiral commanding Her Majesty's naval forces on the Brazilian Station to have recourse to reprisals if certain demands of Her Majesty's Government were not complied with, but on account of the manner in which those orders were executed.

But on examination Her Majesty's Government could not find any ground for blaming either Her Majesty's Representative in Brazil or Her Majesty's Admiral in the Brazilian waters for the mode in which the instructions they had received were executed.

The orders for reprisals were not given till full time had been allowed for the Brazilian Government to weigh seriously the consequences of a refusal to comply with the very moderate and reasonable demands of Her Majesty's Government; and when those reprisals were executed, care was taken to avoid any collision and all risk of bloodshed in the performance of a painful duty.

The sole object of Her Majesty's Government has been to obtain some security for the lives and properties of Her Majesty's subjects who may have the misfortune to be shipwrecked on the coast of Brazil, and to ensure due respect to the persons of Her Majesty's naval officers on Brazilian territory.

If in the course of these proceedings it has been found necessary to enforce the capture of Brazilian ships in Brazilian waters, such necessity has been the motive and limit of the action of Her Majesty's diplomatic and naval authorities.

But as the Brazilian Government has misunderstood the motives of Her Majesty's Government, and has broken off relations, you are directed to ask for passports for yourself and the gentlemen attached to Her Majesty's Mission, and to leave Brazil. You will place the archives in the care of Her Majesty's Consul, Mr. Westwood.

I wish that I could add that in every other respect, except in the recent matters of dispute, Her Majesty's Government had reason to be satisfied with the friendly and courteous conduct of the Brazilian Government. It is, however, notorious that the Government of Brazil has for a long course of time habitually disregarded the representations made to it by Her Majesty's Diplomatic Agents in Brazil; and as one instance of this among others, it may be mentioned that six notes addressed to the Brazilian Government between the 19th of December, 1860, and the 17th of April, 1862, have remained, if not unnoticed, at all events without satisfactory answers. These notes, written under instructions from Her Majesty's Government, asked the Brazilian Government for returns as to the number, and explanations as to the condition, of some thousands of negroes captured in slave-trading vessels, and decreed many years ago by the Mixed Commission at Rio to be entitled to freedom, but who, there is good reason to believe, are up to the present time held in bondage, contrary to law and in violation of Treaty engagements.

* M. Moreira, May 5; to M. Moreira, May 19; M. Moreira, May 25; to M. Moreira, May 28. See "Correspondence with the Minister of Brazil, regarding the Satisfaction demanded by the Brazilian Government for the late Reprisals," recently laid before Parliament.

I may also refer to Mr. Christie's note to M. d'Abrantes of the 12th of February last, in which, in obedience to instructions from Her Majesty's Government, he called the attention of the Brazilian Government to the various communications which he had addressed to the Brazilian Government, and which remained unanswered, and claimed for all the Africans who had been liberated by the late Mixed Commission Court unconditional freedom.

To this note, it is true, a reply was returned by the Brazilian Government; but M. d'Abrantes' note of the 28th of February cannot, under the circumstances, and taking into account previous delays, be considered as satisfactory. In this note M. d'Abrantes stated that the Brazilian Government were studying, with earnestness and solicitude, the question as to the free Africans, in order to proceed with such discretion and prudence as the case required. But the result is that Her Majesty's Government are as far as ever from receiving the information repeatedly asked for, and which their Treaty engagements in favour of the liberated Africans justify them in demanding.

It is, moreover, not out of place on the present occasion to refer to the position of the claims which it was originally proposed should be referred for settlement to the late Mixed Commission.

That Commission was appointed with a view to withdraw from diplomatic negotiation the private claims of the subjects of either Government as against the other. The advantage of such a tribunal was manifest, and the appointment of a Mixed Commission appeared the best means of relieving the two Governments from prolonged and embarrassing discussion. It was therefore with great regret that Her Majesty's Government found that a conflicting interpretation of the terms of the Convention by which the Commission was constituted became an insuperable bar to the further labours of the Commission, which subsequently lapsed according to the terms of the Convention.

Her Majesty's Government could not but regret this unexpected result. But the interpretation which the Brazilian Government attached to the Convention was wholly inconsistent with the well-known policy of Great Britain, and was one which could not have been admitted by Her Majesty's Government without a practical reversal of decisions already made known by them to the Brazilian Government.

But what course was adopted by Her Majesty's Government under these circumstances? In Mr. Christie's note of the 14th April, 1862, the Brazilian Government were informed that Her Majesty's Government were willing to conclude a Convention for the establishment of a new Commission empowered to discuss all claims except those which occasioned the difficulties which proved fatal to the late Commission; and the proposal thus made by Her Majesty's Government was in strict conformity with the line which, both with a view to mutual advantage and to the preservation of friendly relations, they had hitherto pursued in this matter.

Her Majesty's Government under these circumstances are fully justified in complaining that up to this time they are still left without a reply to the proposals conveyed in Mr. Christie's note of the 14th of April, 1862, and that no steps appear to have been taken for the just settlement of various British claims, some of them of long standing and of very considerable amount.

Her Majesty's Government, therefore, hope that the Government of Brazil will in its future intercourse with Great Britain, through whatever channel that intercourse may be carried on, act with that courtesy which is usual between Governments; and also that the Brazilian Government will without further delay frankly enter into the communication of their views as to the means by which a settlement of the long-pending claims may best be arrived at.

You will send a copy of this despatch to the Marquis d'Abrantes, at the same time that you demand your passports, expressing the regret of Her Majesty's Government at this temporary suspension of diplomatic intercourse.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

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BRAZIL.

MEMORANDUM

REGARDING THE

ASSESSMENT OF COMPENSATION

IN THE CASE OF

“THE PRINCE OF WALES.”

*Presented to the House of Lords by Command of Her Majesty, in pursuance of their
Address dated June 19, 1863.*

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

RETURN to an Address of the House of Lords, dated June 19, 1863;

for—

“Copies of any Papers showing on what ground the reduced Demand for Compensation from the Government of Brazil was assessed at the sum of £3,200.”

Memorandum regarding Assessment of Compensation in the Case of the “Prince of Wales.”

ON the 18th of February, Earl Russell directed the Queen's Advocate to be informed that the Government of Brazil had instructed their Representative in England to notify to Her Majesty's Government that he was authorized to pay, under protest, whatever sum Her Majesty's Government might demand in the shape of compensation in the case of the vessel “Prince of Wales;” and his Lordship requested the opinion of the Queen's Advocate as to the amount at which that compensation should be assessed.

The Queen's Advocate was at the same time informed that the responsibility of assessing compensation had not been sought by Her Majesty's Government, who had, indeed, proposed, through Mr. Christie, that the question of amount should be referred to arbitration. The course pursued by Brazil had, however, left Her Majesty's Government no option in the matter.

The Queen's Advocate's Report is to the following effect:—

The Queen's Advocate states that he is of opinion—

That no sum should be claimed in excess of the sum mentioned in Mr. Christie's communications to the Brazilian Government;

That no demand should be made on account of freight, or on account of the loss of the vessel itself;

That the demand should be founded on the plunder of the cargo, of the effects of the crew, and also upon the too probable murder of some or all of them.

He estimates, roughly, the loss of wages and effects at 290*l.*, and the compensation for possible murders at 840*l.*, to be paid to the families of those who were wrecked.

As to the cargo, he makes allowances for probable and necessary damage, and for salvage had the inhabitants of the coast appeared as salvors in place of plunderers; and he then roughly estimates this item at 2,360*l.*

Upon these data a sum of 3,200*l.* was fixed by Earl Russell instead of 3,490*l.*, the sum total of the items estimated by the Queen's Advocate.

This sum was demanded by a note of the 24th of February addressed by Earl Russell to M. Moreira, and it was paid by M. Moreira on the 26th of February.

Foreign Office, June 21, 1863.

Memorandum regarding the Assessment of Compensation in the Case of "The Prince of Wales."

Presented to the House of Lords by Command of Her Majesty, in pursuance of their Address, dated June 19, 1863.

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BRAZIL.

STATEMENT OF OWNERS

OF THE VESSEL

“PRINCE OF WALES.”

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

Statement of Owners of the Vessel "Prince of Wales."

Mr. Stephens to Mr. Layard.—(Received February 14.)

Sir, 15, Dixon Street, Glasgow, February 13, 1863.
IN reply to your letter of the 11th instant, I have ordered a statement to be made of the actual loss incurred by the "Prince of Wales" at Alberdao, coast of Brazil, and a list of the crew, and intend to call at your office on Monday next after 10 o'clock forenoon, when I will be ready to give all particulars, and hope to bring this protracted claim to a settlement. I may mention that the loss of the captain is the greatest.

I am, &c.
(Signed) R. F. STEPHENS.

Inclosure.

MANIFEST of Cargo per "Prince of Wales," for Monte Video, sailed from Glasgow, April 1, 1861.

Marks and Nos.	Goods.	Weight.		Measure- ment.		Freight.			Value.		
		Tons.	c. q. lbs.	Ft.	in.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
W. B.	500 stores	4	2 2 0	}	..	18	18	0	45	0	0
\$ 1/.	½ bottoms, 1 box and 1 cask	0	9 0 12								
(G) \$ 1/50	50 casks 200 qts. ..	..	..	..	..	13	2	6	364	0	0
G \$ 133/232	100 casks soda ash ..	30	4 0 0	..	..	63	8	5	345	0	0
W B \$ 209/228	20 casks nails	0	18 1 16	..	..	1	10	4	74	0	0
(B S) B \$ 36/44	9 casks	3	0 0 0	..	..	6	6	0	68	0	0
$\frac{o}{e}$ \$ 195/206	12 boxes	..	..	65	4	3	8	7	322	0	0
(A) \$ 721/820	100 casks, 320 qts. 140 pts.	..	..	..	..	28	3	1	200	0	0
(P G) \$ 1/51, 1 sample	1 ditto, 50 crates	..	..	2,323	7	111	16	5	970	0	0
	Loose coals	150	0 0 0	..	..	262	10	0	75	0	0
(Marked with an anchor) \$ 1/200	200 casks, 480 qts., 560 pts.	..	..	..	..	49	17	6	500	0	0
(G G) \$ 312/314	3 boxes	..	..	44	7	2	18	6	295	0	0
B (E C) 87/100, 172/200, 208, 210, B A 221	47 crates	}	..	6,344	2	305	6	4	1,027	0	0
C (E C) \$ 14/16, 26/37, 50/54	20 ditto										
B A											
D (E C) 84/86, 97/98, 101/102	7 ditto										
B A											
E (E C) \$ 111/115	5 ditto										
B A											
F (E C) \$ 121/152	32 ditto										
B A											
G (E C) \$ 176/180, 183/5, 221/231, B A 241/6	25 ditto										
H (E C) \$ 1/3, 467/8, 484, 458, B A 563/7, 644, 64/67	15 crates, 1 sample box										
$\frac{G}{S}$ \$ 61/93, 1 sample	33 casks	..	..	759	1	31	6	2	165	0	0
(H) \$ 711/744	28 boxes and 6 bales ..	..	..	226	8	11	18	0	225	0	0
B A \$ 193/200	8 crates	..	..	}	2,001	91	18	11	535	0	0
G B A 1 sample	42 crates	..	..								
G and Co., \$ 410/411, 415/16, 422/29, 433/4	14 bales	..	..	526	2	23	10	3	515	0	0
	4,500 guano bags, on ship's account	..	..	..	..	18	18	0	112	10	0
	Guano planks, stages, &c. ..	..	..	..	..	20	0	0	150	0	0
						1,064	17	0	5,987	10	0

LIST of the Crew of the " Prince of Wales."

Names.				Occupation on board.			Dependencies.
John Mc Kinnon	..	..	..	Master	..	..	A mother aged above 80 years.
Joseph Bell	..	..	..	First Mate	..	..	A wife and three children.
William Gray	..	..	..	Second Mate	..	..	A wife and four children.
James Kennedy	..	..	..	Carpenter	..	..	Unmarried.
Charles Johnson	..	..	..	Seaman	..	..	Ditto.
John Proctor	..	..	..	Ditto	..	..	Ditto.
John Banaytine	..	..	..	Ditto	..	..	Ditto. Great support to parents.
William Mc Dougall	..	..	..	Ditto	..	..	Ditto.
William Wallace	..	..	..	Ditto	..	..	Ditto.
Neill Mc Lean	..	..	..	Ditto	..	..	Ditto.
Alexander Stewart	..	..	..	Ordinary Seaman	..	..	Ditto.
Thomas Mahoney	..	..	..	Ditto	..	..	Ditto.
William Menzies	..	..	..	Ditto	..	..	Ditto.
Archibald Mc Intyre	..	..	..	Apprentice	..	..	Ditto.
Mrs. Captain John Mc Kinnon	..	..	..	..	..	..	A mother living.

Losses incurred per " Prince of Wales."

						£	s.	d.
Value of cargo on shipment	..	..	..	..	..	5,987	10	0
Freight of ditto	..	..	..	..	..	1,064	17	0
Ship's stores and disbursements	..	..	..	..	..	3,223	14	9
Value of ship	..	..	..	..	..	3,109	0	0

Profit on cargo.

Compensation for loss of Captain.

Ditto to relatives of Captain.

Ditto to relatives of First Mate.

Ditto to relatives of Second Mate.

Ditto to relatives of crew.

COPY of CASE submitted, on behalf of HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT, to
the ARBITRATION of HIS MAJESTY the KING of the BELGIANS, in the
Case of the OFFICERS of the "FORTE."

ILL-TREATMENT OF OFFICERS OF HER MAJESTY'S SHIP "FORTE,"
BY THE BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES.

CASE on behalf of Her Majesty's Government.

A DIFFERENCE having arisen between the Government of Her Majesty and the Brazilian Government, concerning the treatment of some officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte," by Brazilian authorities, it has been agreed that the question regarding these officers shall be referred to the arbitration of His Majesty the King of the Belgians, for His Majesty's decision, whether, in the mode of applying the law of Brazil to the case of the officers of the "Forte," there has been any offence to the British Navy?

The King of the Belgians having deigned to undertake this arbitration, the following statement of the facts out of which the above difference has arisen is submitted for the consideration of His Majesty:—

On the 17th of June 1862, three officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte," then stationed off Rio de Janeiro, viz., the Rev. G. G. Clemenger, a clergyman of the Church of England, and chaplain of the "Forte," J. Eliot Pringle, acting lieutenant, and Geoffrey Hornby (midshipman), started from Botafogo, at 8 a. m., for a day's excursion in the country: they were not in uniform, having received permission from the captain to wear plain clothes; Mr. Hornby, however, wore a waistcoat with naval buttons. None of the party could speak Portuguese. On their arrival at an hotel in Tijuca, at three in the afternoon, they partook of some refreshment, and ordered dinner at five o'clock, strolling about the grounds attached to the hotel until it was ready.

At six o'clock they started to catch the last "machambomba" (or omnibus), which leaves at seven o'clock for the city of Rio. On their route they met many passengers, and also the patrol, but took no notice of any one.

On arriving at the Tijuca police guardhouse, Messrs. Clemenger and Hornby being some yards in advance of Lieutenant Pringle, the former, in passing very near the sentry-box, which is close to and a little above the road, was accosted by a police sentry, who moved towards him, and made a motion with his musket; Mr. Clemenger stopped and asked him what he wanted, in Spanish ("Que quere V?"). The words were scarcely uttered, when the sentinel struck him a blow on the chest with his musket, and at the same time called for the guard, which immediately turned out with drawn swords and bayonets, and came down on the road and attacked Messrs. Clemenger and Hornby, who offered not the slightest resistance. Lieutenant Pringle, coming up at this time, was roughly seized by the guard. After remonstrating, he endeavoured to free himself, but was overpowered; even after he was secured and helpless, he was very severely injured; and Mr. Clemenger and Mr. Hornby, though unresisting, were beaten and ill-treated. They were then driven with unnecessary force into the guardhouse prison, and there locked up. They immediately requested to see the officer, who had not up to this time made his appearance. The ensign of police in command arrived in about 10 minutes, accompanied by

a soldier, who evidently had been sent for him. The three British officers were then called upon to explain matters to the ensign, and to give their names and addresses, which they did, stating distinctly that they were British officers. They were then removed to a room called the refectory, where Mr. Clemenger, in compliance with the ensign's request, wrote their names and ranks on a piece of paper provided for that purpose; and they gave him most fully to understand that they were British naval officers. Mr. Clemenger gave him their names and rank again, later in the evening. An Austrian was sent for to act as interpreter, and Lieutenant Pringle spoke to him in German, and through him fully explained their ranks, and that they were British naval officers. Lieutenant Pringle is perfectly satisfied that he was understood on this point, by the suitable answers that he received; the attention of the ensign being, at the same time, called to the naval buttons which Mr. Hornby wore in his waistcoat.

The officer of the guard provided them with writing materials, with which Mr. Clemenger wrote one letter to Captain Saumarez, of the "Forte," and one to the British Consul; these letters the ensign promised should be forwarded, but he never fulfilled his promise.

The address of the letter to Captain Saumarez was, in itself, a corroboration of the British officers' statements that they belonged to his ship, and afforded the Brazilian ensign an opportunity of testing the correctness of their account of themselves.

No sufficient reason has ever been offered for not transmitting this letter to Captain Saumarez.

Messrs. Clemenger and Hornby were confined during the night in the refectory; Lieutenant Pringle, at his own request, was removed to the prison, which he preferred as sleeping quarters.

On the following morning, June 18th, the three officers were told to prepare to march into Rio, under an escort; they objected to this ignominy, and requested to be conveyed in the "machambomba" or omnibus, the expenses of which they offered to defray. This, however, was refused; the reason given by the ensign (through the Austrian, who acted as interpreter) being, that "although they were officers, yet they were ordinary prisoners."

At nine o'clock they started on foot, under a hot sun, with an escort of seven policemen, and arrived at the city police-court at Rio, seven miles off, at eleven o'clock. Here again they wrote their names, rank, and ship, but were, notwithstanding, sent into a filthy prison, where were collected criminals of the dregs of society. At the threshold of this detention-room, they again asked the official whether he was fully aware that they were English officers, when he replied that he was; and they were then locked up. While detained in this place, they succeeded in sending a letter to the British Consul. On his arrival the prisoners were, at his request, removed to a less dirty cell, where, however, four or five prisoners were confined. After the lapse of another hour-and-a-half, they were removed to the police barracks in the town.

In answer to the inquiries of the Acting British Consul at the police office, he was informed by the secretary that the prisoners had been arrested for shooting without a license.

In the afternoon of the 17th, Captain Saumarez having casually heard, when ashore, that some officers of his ship were in prison, went to the chief of police, informed him that one was the clergyman of the ship, the other a lieutenant, and requested their immediate release, undertaking to produce them at any moment the chief of police might wish to see them. He refused, stating they were in custody for striking the guard, and the depositions would be taken the next morning. Captain Saumarez pointed out to the chief of police the rank of the officers, and particularly that one of them was a minister of religion, but in vain; he refused to release them. The three officers were confined during the night of the 18th of June in the barracks.

At half-past 11 on the morning of the 19th of June, they were released by written order of the chief of the police, but without any reason being assigned either for their arrest or discharge, and without any inquiry having been instituted.

On the 22d of June, Rear-Admiral Warren addressed a letter to Mr. Christie, Her Majesty's Minister at Rio, informing him of the facts above set forth, and requesting him to demand from the Brazilian Government a searching investigation and reparation.

Notwithstanding

Notwithstanding the endeavours of Rear-Admiral Warren and Her Majesty's Consul at Rio to obtain a searching investigation at once into the matter, the Brazilian Government proceeded with a slowness and indifference quite unsuitable to the gravity of the incident and the serious character of Admiral Warren's complaints; no investigation was held until the 2d of July, and it was not until the 2d of August that Her Majesty's Minister was supplied with a copy of the depositions taken thereat.

These depositions, taken at the police-office at Rio de Janeiro, will be found *in extenso* in the Appendix. It will be convenient here to set forth the principal matters contained in them :—

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The police soldier, Manoel Luis Teixeira, states that on 17th June 1862 he was on duty as sentry at the door of the guardhouse; that he saw three individuals, apparently foreigners, who, meeting a passer-by, on horseback, seized the bridle and made the horse stop; that the horseman went on, after abusing them on account of their behaviour; that they then proceeded to the guardhouse, and went up the steps in front, and the tallest of them asked the deponent what he was doing there? to which he replied that that was a guardhouse, and that if they had no business there they were to retire; to which that individual retorted that "Brazilian soldiers are a miserable set, and were to be held by the trousers and well kicked," accompanying that saying by endeavouring to lay hold of his (the deponent's) leg, upon which the other two companions of the aggressor, armed with sticks, attacked the deponent, who, in order to defend himself from the former, hit him with the butt-end of his gun and fixed on his bayonet against the other two, calling out the guard, when the commandant and soldiers of the detachment came out to effect the imprisonment of those strangers who did not choose to surrender; that after their imprisonment, the commander of the detachment sent an individual, who speaks French or Spanish, to ask them their names, and the shortest of them wrote the names on a paper; but as he was going to deliver it to the commander, the tallest of them took the paper from him and tore it up; that when those individuals addressed the deponent, they spoke in Portuguese, and did not declare that they were officers.

The Ensign, Braz Cupertino do Amaral, after giving an account from hearsay of what he supposes to have occurred before the calling out of the guard, states that he turned out with the guard, and that he ordered the guard to employ the butt-ends of their muskets, which he says was necessary in consequence of the resistance of the officers; that after their arrest they continued to be turbulent, and principally the chaplain; that they pretended not to understand Portuguese, and that he sent for a German to interpret, who, on arrival, asked them their names. He states that the tallest of the three, whom he now knows to be the chaplain, addressed him with their names written on a paper; but that the chaplain hesitated to deliver it, tore up the paper, and threw it on the floor; that on the following morning they were sent on foot to the city prison, because there were no orders to forward prisoners in any other way; that they showed that they were elated from the excessive use of spirituous liquors; that not one of the individuals under arrest declared that he was a naval officer; but that it is true that they asked for paper, which, on being given to them, the chaplain wrote a note to the Consul and sealed it, which was not forwarded for want of the means of conveyance.

The quartermaster of the police corps, João Goncalves da Silva, was one of the guard who turned out, and can therefore know nothing of his own knowledge of what occurred before that. He alleges, that when the strangers were in prison, the commander asked them to tell their names; and the tallest of them, having written them on a paper, did not choose to deliver it to that officer, but tore it up and threw it away.

Manoel Parente Ribeiro, soldier of the police corps, states that on his rounds patrolling he met the prisoners, when the tallest of them (the chaplain) pointed at the patrol with his stick, but that, seeing they were tipsy, the patrol passed on. The rest of this person's statement is hearsay only.

Robert Bennett, the owner of the hotel where the officers dined, states that he saw them returning from his hotel singing merrily; that on the following morning, hearing that they had been imprisoned, he asked his manager what liquors they had been served with, and found that the three had had two bottles of Bordeaux wine and half a bottle of cognac.

Rodolph Müller, an Austrian, states that he was called in to interpret between the ensign of police and English officers, who appeared to be ignorant of the Portuguese language; that he was requested to tell them the reason of their imprisonment, and to demand their names; that they answered him crossly, without declaring their rank as officers of the English Navy. He alleges that he observed them not to be in their perfect senses, it appearing to him that they had drunk too much, the tallest (the chaplain) being the more disorderly and unreasonable.

Domingos Jose da Silveira, corporal of police, states that he was one of the guard who turned out; that he found the strangers wrestling with the sentinel, and that it was necessary to use force to arrest them, and that he was thrown down and hurt in so doing; that after the arrest they were treated with civility, and were provided, at their request, with paper and playing-cards; that a foreigner was sent for, to find out from the prisoners who and what they were, which they did not choose to tell; that they were in a disordered state of mind; and that while they were in the guardhouse not one of them ever declared that they were officers in the English Navy.

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Copies of these depositions were submitted to the three officers for their observations thereon. These observations, which will be found in the Appendix, show in detail the untruthfulness of the statements contained in the depositions. It is sufficient here to state, that the three officers positively deny the charge of having stopped or molested any passenger, or the patrol. They also deny that they attacked the sentry, and repeat their assertions that he attacked them. They indignantly deny the imputation of being intoxicated, stating that they had only drank a glass of brandy and seltzer-water each in the afternoon, and two bottles of Bordeaux between the three, a statement confirmed by the evidence of Mr. Bennett.

They further state, that the officer of the guard requested their names, and that they gave them in full, with rank and ship, on two separate occasions, written on a piece of paper, which he provided for that purpose, and one of which papers he himself threw on the floor in a contemptuous manner after reading it.

They also state that it was also verbally explained to the ensign who they were and what their rank was, and that it was clear that the ensign understood, from the suitable answers which Lieutenant Pringle received through the interpreter.

It only remains to make a few observations on the evidence above set forth, with special reference to the question now submitted for arbitration.

The origin of the conflict between the sentinel of police and the three English officers was witnessed only by the four individuals concerned.

The character and position of the English officers, one of them a minister of religion, entitle their statements to credence, unless they are opposed by incontrovertible facts. If it were true that they had molested passengers on their way to the police-guard, the evidence of the persons who were stopped, or of disinterested witnesses, might have been obtained. The statement of the police soldier Ribiero, that the chaplain pointed at the patrol with his stick, is too trivial to need comment.

It is submitted that there is nothing to impeach the uniform, consistent, and probable accounts given by the officers of the manner in which the transaction between them and the sentinel began, and that there is nothing to corroborate the statement of the sentinel.

With regard to the statement of the ensign and the other witnesses, that the officers did not give their names, it is to be observed, that it is in the highest degree improbable that they should not do so. They would naturally expect, that the knowledge that they were officers of the English Navy would procure for them that respect which is usually accorded in every country to the officers of friendly Governments. It is further to be observed, that the ensign and other policemen admit, that the names of the officers were, in fact, written on a piece of paper, as alleged by them. It is true that the ensign and his subordinates state that the chaplain afterwards destroyed the paper; but, independently of the denial of this statement by the three English officers, it is incredible in itself. What motive can be suggested for the chaplain destroying the paper after he had written it? It is more consistent with probability that the ensign, seeing from the papers that his prisoners were officers of the Government from which

which had recently emanated serious complaints against the Brazilian police, gave way to bad temper, and treated his prisoners in a manner inconsistent with his duty.

It is further to be observed, that the ensign does not offer any excuse whatever for not having forwarded the letter to Captain Saumarez. The superscription of that letter, addressed to the ship "Forte," was in itself sufficient to suggest to the ensign that the prisoners belonged to that vessel, and at least should have induced him to make inquiry as to them. The excuse offered for not delivering the letter to the British consul, viz., that he had not the means of sending it, is very unsatisfactory, as no explanation is given why he could not send it; and it is not alleged that he informed the officers that he could not send it, who would naturally suppose, from his receiving the letter, that he intended to fulfil his promise of forwarding it.

It is admitted, that it was perfectly well known, on the arrival of the consul, that the prisoners were English officers. It is clear that Captain Saumarez gave his undertaking, that if his officers were released, they should be forthcoming whenever required. The chief of the police refused, in any manner, to release them, although by the simple order of the same functionary, they were discharged on the following morning, without any reason being given, and without any legal investigation having been made in the meantime. It is clear, therefore, that the police authorities, after they had positive information of the rank of the prisoners, refused to exercise the power they possessed to release them, and unnecessarily detained them for another night in custody.

From the statements given by the officers, supported as those statements are by their professional characters and rank, corroborated by every circumstance of probability, and refuted by insufficient evidence, there is little doubt that the Brazilian authorities concerned must have been aware that the parties with whom they were dealing were in Her Majesty's Naval Service. They had in their hands a letter from those parties addressed to their commanding officer, and they, moreover, learnt from the British consul the particulars of their rank.

It would seem natural that Brazilian officers thus circumstanced would have shown every courtesy to the officers. They were aware that in dealing with the case they had to do with men who could always be forthcoming on proper official application to their superiors, and that by inflicting on them the insulting and injurious treatment to which the officers were undoubtedly exposed, they were practically anticipating a final judgment in the case. They avoided every opportunity of consulting the dignity of Her Majesty's Naval Service, by refusing them the opportunity of a private removal to Rio; and in finally discharging their prisoners, no apology was offered for the varying and discrepant charges which had been brought against them.

Setting aside for the moment all considerations of international courtesy, and of the friendly relations between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of Brazil, it is difficult to suppose that the laws of any civilized State should admit of an application by which such injurious treatment can, at the will of subordinate authorities, be wantonly inflicted, without proof of serious offence, either contemplated or accomplished, without full investigation, and without an ultimate sentence either of guilt or acquittal.

Under these circumstances, it is submitted that, in the case of the officers of the "Forte," Brazilian law has been so administered as to cause a serious offence to the British Navy, for which satisfaction ought to be made to Her Majesty's Government by that of Brazil.

A P P E N D I X.

CORRESPONDENCE respecting the Ill-treatment of Three Officers of Her Majesty's Ship "Forte" by the Brazilian Police.

I N D E X.

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Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received 2 September.)

My Lord, Rio de Janeiro, 7 August 1862.
I HAVE to bring a disagreeable incident to your Lordship's knowledge, and I inclose,—

1. Copy of a letter from Rear-Admiral Warren, dated 22d June, complaining in very strong terms of ill-treatment by Brazilian police authorities of three officers of his flag-ship, one of them the chaplain.

2 to 5. Copies of reports made to the admiral by Captain Saumarez, and by the three officers, inclosed in Admiral Warren's letter to me.

6 and 7. Copy of report made to me by Her Majesty's acting consul, and translation of the letter of the chief of police to him.

8. Copy of a note to me from the Marquis d'Abrantes, Minister for Foreign Affairs, dated 17th July, and inclosing a report from M. Sinimbú, the acting minister of justice, of the result of an inquiry into the affair instituted by the chief of police.

9 to 11. Translations of M. Sinimbú's despatch to the Marquis d'Abrantes, and of report of chief of police to M. Sinimbú, and summary of documents inclosed in the report of the chief of police.

12. Copy of reply of the three officers to the report of the chief of police.

Your Lordship will observe that the Minister for Foreign Affairs, in transmitting to me M. Sinimbú's report, expresses no opinion on the affair, but that M. Sinimbú thinks the report of the chief of police convincing, and the complaint of Admiral Warren groundless.

Immediately on receipt of the Marquis d'Abrantes' note of the 17th July, I wrote to him asking for a copy of the evidence taken by the chief of police. It was immediately promised, but I did not receive the evidence till late in the evening of the 2d instant, Saturday; and I should not have received it even then but for my having written pressing to M. Sinimbú; and it appears from his reply to me (of which Enclosure 13 is a copy) that no steps had been taken for copying the evidence, and he sends me the original depositions.

I have received these depositions too late to be able to forward translations of them by this packet, or even to act upon them in any way before the packet leaves. Immediately after the departure of the packet, they will be communicated to the three officers, for any observations they may wish to make on them; and I shall then confer with the admiral on the whole question, and afterwards with the Marquis d'Abrantes; and I shall make a further report to your Lordship by the French steamer leaving this on the 25th instant, which you will receive in the middle of September.

I make

I make the present incomplete report, the admiral sending a similar one to the Admiralty, for the following reason: the hot weather, and other reasons, may render the admiral's departure for the River Plate desirable in December, and it may in that case be important for us to receive instructions from Her Majesty's Government in the beginning of November. The preliminary reports now sent may, therefore, facilitate the sending of final instructions by the English packet of October.

I reserve for my next report my own opinion on the question, and will simply say now that the admiral regards the affair as more serious than that for which he has lately, under a threat of force, obtained satisfaction at Monte Video.

The Brazilian Government do not seem to regard it at all in the same light, and I think it important to explain to your Lordship, in detail, the apathy and slowness which they have hitherto shown. The admiral's letter, dated the 22d June, was handed by him to me on the morning of Monday the 24th, just as I was leaving Rio for a week, under engagements of some standing, to pay some visits, and for change of air on account of my health. On my way out of town I called at the house of the Marquis d'Abrantes, and in his absence saw his secretary. I explained to the latter the object of my visit, read to him the admiral's letter, begged him to represent the matter to his chief as urgent, and told him that Admiral Warren particularly wished an early inquiry, as he might be obliged to leave Rio in a few days, and it would be inconvenient to him to find himself compelled to leave the chaplain and the other two officers behind him. I begged the secretary to state this to the Marquis, and to add, that Mr. Eliot would call on his Excellency the next morning before 10, his usual hour of receiving, in order to apply to him officially on my behalf for a full and early inquiry. Mr. Eliot went and placed in the hands of the Marquis d'Abrantes the admiral's letter and its enclosures. His Excellency expressed great concern for what had happened, for the matter had become the talk of the town, and there was a general feeling that the officers had been treated shamefully, and he promised to take the proper steps immediately for an inquiry.

When I had returned to Rio on the 1st July, no inquiry had taken place, and no steps had been taken for holding one. The Admiral had in the meantime proceeded to Monte Video, leaving the three officers behind him.

I then went, accompanied by the senior naval officer in port, to the Marquis d'Abrantes, to urge him again to have an immediate inquiry, and enable these three officers to make their statements, that they might be free to proceed in a few days to join the Admiral at Monte Video in one of Her Majesty's ships which was going there. He referred me to the acting minister of justice, whom I found with some difficulty; and it was then arranged that the chief of police should hold an inquiry and hear the officers on the 4th July.

The Marquis d'Abrantes transmitted to me on the 17th the report of the chief of police, but not the depositions.

I have already explained, that I immediately asked for a copy of the depositions, that they were promised me, and that on the 2d of August no steps had been taken for having them copied for me. The consequence is, that Admiral Warren and myself are prevented from making complete reports by this packet, which leaves Rio seven weeks after the incident.

It appears to me that the Brazilian Government have proceeded with a slowness and indifference quite unsuitable to the gravity of the incident and the serious character of Admiral Warren's complaints, and quite inconsistent with the first tone and promises of the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. D. Christie.*

Rear-Admiral Warren to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

"Forte," Rio de Janeiro, 22 June 1862.

A most brutal outrage was committed on three officers belonging to Her Majesty's ship "Forte," on the evening of the 17th instant, by the guard stationed on the Tijuca Hill, the details of which you will learn from the inclosed copies of the statements of the officers themselves; and I have the honour to request your co-operation in obtaining from the Brazilian Government a searching inquiry into this most atrocious outrage, in order that the offenders may be brought to punishment, and ample reparation made for the indignities placed on the national honour by the brutal assault made on the persons of these officers.

By the above-mentioned statement you will perceive that the officer of the guard was perfectly aware of the rank and nationality of these officers when he submitted them to the indignity of marching into the city as if they had been the worst of criminals; for, on the remark of Lieutenant Pringle, he says, "Although you are officers, you are only ordinary prisoners."

When brought to the filthy den in which they were confined for some time with the lowest and worst description of prisoners, the official who received them there also stated that he was perfectly aware of their rank and nation.

Even the application of Her Majesty's consul was not for some time successful in obtaining their removal into a decent place of confinement; and, to crown all, after having

been subjected to this disgraceful treatment for 40 hours, they are told to go about their business, no inquiry whatever having been gone into. A more outrageous proceeding altogether I have never heard of.

The captain of Her Majesty's ship "Forte" himself went to the chief of police, stated who the officers were, and pledged himself to produce them when called for; but that official refused to accede to this request, and does not appear even then to have taken any steps to remove them to a proper place of confinement, although made acquainted by the captain with their rank and nationality.

When you have perused these details, I feel convinced you will agree with me that not a moment should be lost in demanding from the Brazilian Government the most searching inquiry and reparation.

I have, &c.
(signed) *R. L. Warren.*

Captain *Saumarez* to Rear-Admiral *Warren*.

Sir,

"Forte," Rio de Janeiro, 20 June 1862.

WHEN walking on shore with Captain Henry of the "Stromboli," about five o'clock p. m. of the 18th instant, I was informed that two officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte" were in prison. I at once went to the chief of police, the consulate being closed, and requested to know if such was the case, and the charge against them, pointing out that one was the clergyman of the ship, the other a lieutenant, and requested their immediate release, pledging to produce them at any moment he wished to see them; he refused, stating they were in for striking the guard, and the depositions would be taken next morning. I pointed out to him the rank of these officers, and more especially as to one being a minister of religion, but all in vain; he refused in any way to release them. I then requested to be informed who was the next in rank I could see; he said the Minister of Justice, but even he could not release them.

I then proceeded to the Brazilian flag-ship. The Admiral not being on board, I stated the circumstances, and gave the name and rank of these officers, requesting his assistance.

Next morning I proceeded with the Vice-Consul to the chief of police, whom we found out; but an order for the release of these officers had been given, and on whom I have called for their depositions, which I beg to annex.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Thos. Saumarez, Captain.*

P. S.—I may add that these officers were in plain clothes, having obtained permission to go into the country.

(signed) *T. Saumarez.*

The Rev. *G. Clemenger* to Captain *Saumarez*.

Sir,

"Forte," Rio de Janeiro, 20 June 1862.

IN compliance with your order, I have the honour to lay before you a statement of a most unwarrantable and brutal assault made against my person and liberty, on the evening of Tuesday, 17th June.

When returning from Tijuca to take the "machambomba" at seven o'clock for Rio, and passing by a police guardhouse, a sentinel advanced towards me, and made a motion with his musket and fixed bayonet. I addressed him in the following words: "Que quere V?" He immediately struck me on the chest with the butt of his musket, and made an attempt to stab me, at the same time calling out the whole of the guard, who rushed on me with bayonets and swords, the aforesaid sentry striking me a second time with his musket.

I was then dragged into the guardroom, and placed in confinement till the officer of the guard came, and asked for an explanation and my address, which I gave him.

During this time Mr. Pringle and Mr. Hornby had been most grossly treated, and afterwards placed in confinement. Several times during the evening I told the officer of the guard who I was.

On Wednesday morning I was placed under an escort of seven soldiers, policemen, and obliged to walk into Rio, though I had requested to be allowed to hire a conveyance, which was refused. On my arrival at the police-station, I was ordered to give my name, and address, and then was confined in a prison, full of men and boys of the lowest grade of society, for the space of two hours, but through the intercession of Mr. Tupper was removed to another prison, something cleaner than the first; here I remained for one hour and a half. I was then removed to the head police-station, and treated with every courtesy requisite.

On

On Thursday morning, at 11 o'clock, an officer came into our room, and informed us that we were liberated, without giving us any information why we had been confined, or what charge had been brought against us.

I have to request that you will have this matter thoroughly investigated, that English naval officers may no more suffer such ignominious treatment as we have.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. Clemenger.*

Lieutenant *Pringle* to Captain *Saumarez*.

Sir,

"Forte," Rio de Janeiro, 20 June 1862.

IN compliance with your orders, I have the honour to submit to you the following account of a most brutal outrage which was committed against my person and liberty by some of the guard at Tijuca Hill, at about 6.40 p.m. on Tuesday, 17th June 1862.

While hastening down to catch the "machambomba," with Mr. Clemenger, chaplain, and Mr. Hornby, midshipman, I saw Mr. Clemenger accosted by a sentinel. The former stopped, and said, "Que quere V.?" The words were scarcely uttered when, in the most unwarrantable manner, the sentry struck him in the chest with the butt of his musket, and called for the guard, who immediately hurried out and seized us in the most rough manner, and took my stick out of my hand. I then requested them to unhand me; they not doing so, I resisted, and attempted to resume my walk, but was overpowered by numbers of police with drawn swords and bayonets, who struck me with them, and maltreated me in the grossest manner; I being also struck near the groin with the butt of the sentinel's musket. I was then forced into a prison in the guardhouse, where I called for the officer of the guard, who, after some delay, inquired into our case, and asked for our names and address, which we gave in full on two occasions. We explained to him fully the circumstances of the case, and complained to him of the gross treatment we had received, also making him fully aware, as also the rest of the guard, that we were British naval officers. At his request we wrote to the English consul and to yourself, which letters he promised to forward early on Wednesday morning.

The following morning, Wednesday 18th June, he ordered us to march down to Rio under an escort. We then asked him to allow us a carriage, the expense of which we offered to defray. He, however, refused, giving as a reason, that although we were officers we were ordinary prisoners. We were then marched down to Rio at nine o'clock in an ignominious manner, under an escort of seven policemen. At the Rio police-office we again gave our names in full, rank, and address, and were then ushered into a filthy den, where were men and boys of the lowest society. At the threshold of this detention-room I asked the official if he were perfectly aware of our rank and country; he answered in the affirmative, and we went in, where we remained for two hours. The consul having us removed to a better prison, which was notwithstanding filthy, we were kept there about an hour and a half, when, through the intervention of Mr. Tupper and the consul, we were removed in a carriage to a barrack in the town and placed in comfortable quarters, where we were well treated.

On Thursday morning, a little before noon, the officer of the guard showed us a letter from the chief of police, ordering him to set our bodies at liberty. I then inquired the reason, and on what grounds we were liberated, our case not having been heard by a judge or any competent person, and whether we were on remand or bail, but he afforded me no information, further than that we were free.

I also must mention the perversion of truth of which the officer commanding the guard at Tijuca was guilty; firstly, in not forwarding our letters, as he promised to do; secondly, in his charge against us, calling us three unknown foreigners, as we refused to give our names, this latter being a most direct falsehood, we having, as stated above, given our names, ranks, and addresses on two separate occasions. Through this latter falsehood he was able to get us put into the filthy detention-room of the police when we arrived at Rio.

The charges, also, which I heard by an indirect source, will, by the above statement, be shown to be most egregiously false.

Hoping that you will take such steps as you consider necessary, to obtain redress for this gross outrage offered by Brazilian officials to three unoffending British naval officers, as also to prevent its recurrence,

I have, &c.
(signed) *Eliot Pringle.*

Mr. Hornby to Captain Saumarez.

Sir,

"Forte," Rio de Janeiro, 20 June 1862.

WHILST coming down from Tijuca on Tuesday the 17th instant, in company with Mr. Clemenger and Mr. Pringle, for the purpose of meeting the "machambomba," leaving at seven o'clock, we passed the Tijuca guard-house. The sentry advanced towards us, and Mr. Clemenger not knowing him to be a police, addressed him with the words "Que quere V.?" The sentry immediately made two or three thrusts at him with his fixed bayonet, and then struck him in the chest with the butt, at the same time calling out for the whole guard, who immediately rushed out on us, took our sticks and Mr. Clemenger's umbrella, and overpowered us and conveyed us into the guardhouse by main force, at the same time making free use of the flats of their swords and bayonets. The guard consisted of from 20 to 30 persons. We were then locked up, and remained there till the officer of the guard arrived, when one of us were called out, and explained that we had not the least idea of creating a disturbance, and also told him we were English officers.

We were again shut up for the night, and having written two letters, one to yourself and the other to the vice-consul, explaining where we were and how we had got there, we were then told that they should be sent immediately, and that they would arrive at their destination at about nine o'clock next morning.

In the morning we were informed that we were to be removed with a guard to Rio. We offered to pay for a conveyance, or take the "machambomba," both of which were refused us; but we were told that if we walked about an hour's walk to another station, we should there get a conveyance to save us the unpleasantness of being marched through the town with a guard of seven police, as we eventually were.

On arriving at the Rio station, we were asked to sign our names and ranks, which we all did, and were then locked up in the most disgusting den possible, among all the black-guards of the town.

We then managed to send a note to the consul, asking him if he had received our previous letter, and begging him to come and demand that as officers we should be treated as such, and not degraded in the way we were.

The consul came and had us removed to a place a little better, but still most filthy, and informed us that we should remain there till the chief of police came, whom we should see.

He came, but we did not see him; however, he gave an order for us to be removed to the State prison, where we were better treated.

I hope, sir, you will be kind enough to cause an investigation to take place to prevent such proceedings for the future.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Geoffrey Hornby*, Midshipman.

Acting Consul Hollocombe to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, 30 June 1862.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Excellency the following report of my visit to the police office in this city on the 18th instant, the day following the arrest of three officers belonging to Her Majesty's ship "Forte."

On hearing that the chaplain of the "Forte" was imprisoned, I immediately proceeded to the police station, and there saw that officer, together with two others, confined in the "xadrez" or common lock-up.

The chief of police not being then in the office, I called on the secretary, who informed me that the prisoners referred to had been apprehended for shooting without a license, and that as soon as the chief of police returned he would acquaint him of my visit, when he had no doubt they would be set at liberty. The secretary, immediately I informed him that the prisoners were officers of Her Majesty's Navy, ordered them to be removed to another place of confinement, and this I saw effected before I left the station.

The charge brought against these officers, as given to me by the secretary, appeared so frivolous, that I fully expected they would be at once released, and therefore did not call again to see the chief of police; but later in the day, on sending to the station, I ascertained that the three officers had been removed to the Quartel dos Permanentes. On the 20th instant, I addressed a note to the chief of police, asking for the information of Captain Saumarez, the reason that these officers had been apprehended, and the nature of the charge made against them; and I have now the honour to inclose a translation of the reply to my note.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Thos. Hollocombe*.

(Translation.)

Senhor *Da Gama* to Acting Consul *Hollocombe*.Police Office, Rio de Janeiro,
21 June 1862.

Sir,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch dated yesterday, and, in reply, I have to state that the three officers belonging to the frigate "Forte," alluded to therein, were taken prisoners on the 17th instant, by the ensign commanding the detachment at Tijuca, for having attacked the sentry of that detachment, and for attempting to force an entry into the respective guard-house.

God preserve you.

(signed) *Agostinho Liuz da Gama*.

REPLY of Mr. *Clemenger*, Chaplain, Lieutenant *Pringle*, and Mr. *Hornby*, Midshipmen of the "Forte," on the Statement of the Chief of Police, relative to an attack made on those Officers by the Police stationed on Tijuca Hill.

Chief of Police states :—1. "That on the afternoon of the 17th June last, three foreigners having dined at the hotel of Robert Bennett, on the Tijuca Hill, where they had two bottles of Bordeaux wine and half a bottle of cognac, were proceeding to the city."

Officers' reply :—We beg to state that we arrived at the hotel at 3 p.m., where we had a glass of brandy and seltzer-water. About an hour and a half after this we had dinner, drinking two bottles of claret. This comprised the whole of the refreshments we partook of; our hotel bill amounting to the sum of ten milreis.

Chief of Police :—2. "That on the road the said foreigners annoyed the passers-by, attempting to unhorse an equestrian who was going home quietly, violently seizing the reins of his horse."

Reply :—That on the road we annoyed no passers-by, nor did we attempt to unhorse an equestrian.

Chief of Police :—3. "That at seven o'clock in the evening the said strangers arrived at the station of the detachment, and going up the steps before the house, approached the sentinel there posted, one of them, *Clemenger*, asking him 'What are you doing there?' and upon the sentinel telling them to retire, they broke out into threats with the sticks which they carried, threats which they put into execution, and began to strike the sentinel, who defended himself with the stock of his gun without using his bayonet, in order not to wound them, and called the guard."

Reply :—At seven o'clock in the evening we were passing the police station, but did not ascend the steps before the house; that Mr. *Clemenger* did address the sentry in the following words: "Que quere V.?" on the sentry rushing towards the steps; that no threats whatever were used, nor sticks. Mr. *Clemenger* had only a light umbrella in his hand. We did not strike the sentry, nor in any way give the slightest provocation for the cowardly manner in which the sentry struck Mr. *Clemenger* with the butt of his musket, and for the attempts with the point of his bayonet. The sentry did call the guard.

Chief of Police :—4. "That the guard coming out at the call of the sentinel, as also the ensign commanding it, all gentle measures were used for the apprehension of the three foreigners, who opposed the greatest resistance, laying hold of the soldiers and falling on the ground with them, until at last they were taken, for which purpose the use of moderate force was indispensable."

Reply :—That the guard did turn out, but the ensign commanding did not appear until after we had been incarcerated in the Tijuca guard-room about 10 minutes; that far from the guard using gentle measures, they rushed out with drawn swords and bayonets. No resistance whatever was made by two of the officers, and by the third only after he had received gross treatment. We were beaten with the backs of swords and drawn bayonets, as also several times by the butt of the sentry's musket; and that even after the third officer had been secured, they continued their brutal treatment.

Chief of Police :—5. "That on the three foreigners being deposited in the guard-room, the ensign in command endeavoured to learn their names and descriptions; and as they appeared to be ignorant of the Portuguese language, he employed the Austrian, Rudolph Müller, who lives in the neighbourhood, to put them questions, which they did not choose to answer, showing themselves haughty and scornful."

Reply :—On our being deposited in the guard-house, the ensign then appeared for the first time, and asked us our names, which we gave him verbally and in writing. An Austrian did interpret for us, and fully explained to the ensign our rank and profession, and we answered all his questions.

Chief of Police :—6. "That notwithstanding their not choosing to give their names and conditions, the three strangers were treated by the commander of the detachment with the greatest kindness and urbanity, not only furnishing them with writing paper and playing

"playing cards at their request, but also placing at their disposal his own bed, the only one in the guard-house."

Reply :—We beg to state most positively that we did give our names and professions several times to the police officer and interpreter. We were in some respects treated with civility by the officer of the guard, inasmuch as he provided us with paper, on which we wrote two letters, one to Captain Saumarez, of the "Forte," the other to the British consul, and which the officer of the guard promised to forward; but on this point he broke his word, and the letters were never received by those to whom they were addressed. He also provided a pack of cards, and was kind enough to offer a bed to one of the officers.

Chief of Police :—7. "That although these three foreigners were not completely drunk, they appeared not to be in full possession of their mental faculties."

Reply :—We consider it derogatory to us as officers to be forced into the statement that we were not drunk, but in full possession of our mental faculties.

Chief of Police :—8. "That on the following day, these three strangers were sent to the city without their having informed the commander of the detachment of their ranks as English naval officers, nor even given a hint of the subject. On the arrival of these three foreigners in this city, they were placed not in the slave prison, but in that of free men where there might also be persons of colour, as, according to our legislation, there is no difference of prison on account of colour, but only on account of such condition."

"As soon as it was known that the three individuals belonged to the English navy, they were immediately removed to another special prison, and upon Her Britannic Majesty's vice-consul declaring that they were officers of the English frigate the 'Forte,' I sent them, without loss of time, to the barracks of the police corps, as appears from the official report (copy No. 1.), accompanied by the captain commanding the company of foot soldiers. At the same time, I caused an order to be sent to the sub-delegate of the parish of Engenho Velho (copy No. 2.), at whose disposal the English officers were in prison, to furnish me immediately with a circumstantial account of their imprisonment, and to transfer them to my disposal."

"Having received on the 19th June, before 9 o'clock in the morning, the official reply of the sub-delegate (copy No. 3.), and finding that there was no ground for instituting proceedings, as the acts of the English officers were merely the result of the state in which they were at the time, I at once gave orders for their discharge, as appears by copy No. 4., not having done it before, as solicited by Captain Saumarez, because I had not yet received the official report of the sub-delegate transferring them to my disposal, and was ignorant of the cause of their imprisonment."

Reply :—The following day we were sent to the city on foot, under an escort of seven police; and it is needless to state that the ensign of police was fully aware of our rank as English naval officers whilst enforcing this unnecessary proceeding, we having offered to pay for a conveyance to the city. On arriving at the city prison, we again gave in writing our names and ranks in full to an official; and, before entering the filthy detention-room, we asked the official who showed us in if he were fully aware of our rank, and he answered in the affirmative. After the lapse of two hours, we were removed to another prison, less filthy than the last, where we remained one hour and a half. We would observe, that the subsequent fabrication of the charge of drunkenness brought against us, was not mentioned in the original charge of Alfêres Amaral, of which we have a copy. It merely appears to be brought up as a means to give colour to their false accusations, and screen their cowardly proceedings: also the grave charge of attacking a sentry, &c., being made against us, while no grounds were found for instituting proceedings.

And we declare, that our replies as above given are true, and that we are ready to swear to the same if called on to do so.

Dated on board the "Forte" at Rio de Janeiro, 4th August 1862.

(signed) *George Clemenger*, Chaplain.
Eliot Pringle, Lieutenant.
Geoffery Hornby, Midshipman.

Approved and signed in my presence, 4th August 1862.

(signed) *T. Saumarez*, Captain.

Senor Sinimbú to Mr. Christie.

Mon cher M. Christie,

Caleté, le 2 Août 1862.

J'ETAIS persuadé qu'on vous avait, déjà envoyés les dépositions prises à la police relatives au sujet des officiers de la frégate "Forte" mais sachant par votre lettre qu'on n'a pas fait je m'empresse de vous les transmettre même en original afin de satisfaire à votre désir.

Je vous demande pardon de ne vous avoir pas répondu plus tôt, mais vous savez les occupations dont je suis actuellement chargé.

(signé) *J. C. Sinimbu.*

Mr. *Christie* to Earl *Russell*.—(Received 22 September.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, 23 August 1862.

WITH reference to my Despatch, No. 62, of the 7th instant, on the ill-treatment of three officers of Her Majesty's ship "*Forte*," I have now the honour to inclose a translation of the evidence taken by the chief of police, accompanied by some marginal observations of my own; also a copy of a statement made by the three officers after reading the evidence; and a copy of a note, dated the 19th instant, which I have addressed to the Marquis of Abrantes, in transmitting to him the statements of the officers.

A few days before I wrote this note to his Excellency, I called on him by appointment to discuss the whole question with him. Besides a special appointment made two days before, it had been some time since agreed, on his suggestion, that after I had read the evidence taken by the chief of police, I should see him and discuss the question with him. But his Excellency was so little prepared for a discussion when I went to him on the 17th instant, that he immediately stated that he had not read any of the documents which he had transmitted to me. I therefore told him that I thought this grave outrage had merited earlier attention; that it was of course useless for me to proceed if he was entirely unprepared; that it was my duty to make a full report to your Lordship by the French steamer on the 25th; that I would furnish his Excellency with copies of the officers' replies; and that I sincerely hoped that the Brazilian Government would profit by the interval which must elapse before I could receive instructions from your Lordship, to offer proper satisfaction.

I have carefully discussed the whole question with Admiral Warren, and our opinions are the same.

We both think that the guard, as is too often the case in these countries, brutally attacked the chaplain, without taking time to understand him; that the three officers were afterwards treated with unnecessary and shameful violence; that after their names and professions were known, they were treated with gross indignity; and that these officers are to be believed; and that the defence is a trumped-up story.

Your Lordship will observe, that only one of the witnesses could by possibility know anything of what happened up to the moment when the guard turned out. So far, indisputably, there are the declarations of the three officers to be set against that of the sentry, a man of the lowest class.

The officers declare that the ensign did not appear till about 10 minutes after they were imprisoned. If he was absent from the guard-room he was neglecting his duty, and became liable to punishment; and it is not surprising that he should not admit this, or that the soldiers under him should agree with him in declaring that he turned out with the guard.

The words put into the chaplain's mouth by the sentry and by four other witnesses who were present, namely, "*Que figura faz vossê?*" are a Portuguese slang phrase, which the chaplain, who knows no Portuguese, had never heard of. The words he used were Spanish, "*Que quiere V.?*" &c.—"*What do you want?*" a very natural and inoffensive reply to a loud hail from a sentry.

None of the officers speak Portuguese, or attempt to speak it. When they tried to explain themselves later in Spanish, of which they have learnt something in the River Plate, it is very likely that the witnesses might take their Spanish for Portuguese.

The Austrian witness, whose statements are in flat contradiction to those of the officers, is an unknown man, of so little consideration that neither the ensign nor any of the soldiers knew his name, though he lives in the immediate neighbourhood.

I have conversed with all the three officers on this subject, and feel satisfied of the truth of their statements.

They had started early in the morning on a long walking excursion, and it was already dark when they reached the Tijuca guard-house on their return. The sentry was probably asleep, and hearing loud voices close to the guard-house, called out, and without waiting to understand a foreigner, proceeded, as is too much the custom of the low Brazilian soldiers, to administer blows and bring out his arms.

I have pointed out to the Marquis of Abrantes how the delay which took place before any inquiry was instituted gave time for the concoction of a false story in defence.

Admiral Warren agrees with me in thinking that the ensign should be dismissed, and he also thinks that some punishment should be inflicted on the corporal, who, the officers say, distinguished himself particularly by his violence in the ill-treatment administered after the guard turned out. But the officers have not stated this in writing. I would suggest that some punishment should in any case be inflicted on the sentry with whom this disturbance began.

The Admiral agrees with me in thinking that the Brazilian Government should be required to publish a statement expressing their regret for what has happened, and animadverting on the conduct of the official who received the officers at the Rio police station, and on the chief of police, who, in his report to the Minister of Justice, imputed intoxication to the officers, without one particle of evidence.

I should observe that the officers were not in uniform, having received permission from the captain to be in plain clothes, as they were going into the country. But I submit, that as soon as they declared that they were naval officers, inquiries should have been made, if their statements were not believed, before subjecting them to the ill-treatment which followed their imprisonment. The midshipman, Mr. Hornby, wore a waistcoat with naval buttons.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. D. Christie.*

RECORD of Replies to Questions put to *Braz Cupertino do Amaral*, Ensign of the Police Corps of this Capital.

(Translation.)

ON the 2d day of July 1862, in this capital, and in the police office, came and appeared before Dr. Agostinho Luis da Gama, chief of police, and the undersigned clerk of the court, Braz Cupertino do Amaral, ensign of the police corps of this city, and the chief of police then and there read to him a despatch from Admiral Warren, Commander-in-Chief of the English frigate "*Forte*," in which he complains of his conduct towards several officers of that frigate who were arrested by the detachment under his command, and in order that he might explain the facts which constitute the complaint; and the said ensign deposed as follows:—

That at seven o'clock in the evening of the 17th of last month three foreigners were coming down from Tijuca, disputing on the road with the passers-by, and with the patrol, who at that time were going their rounds, pointing at them with the sticks they carried, and using threats. That on approaching the detachment commanded by the deponent they met a person on horseback, whom they stopped, checking the bridle, and were on this occasion abused by the individual who went on his way.

That on their arrival at the guard-house of the detachment, which is situated a little way from the road, they ascended the steps of the house, and approaching the sentinel, one of them, who I afterwards knew to be named Clemenger, said to the sentinel in Portuguese, "What are you doing there?" ("*Que figura faz vossê ahí?*" or "What part are you playing there?") And on the sentinel desiring them to go away, the said Clemenger said that "Brazilian soldiers were only fit for being held by the trowsers and thrown away," and immediately raising their sticks they began to beat the sentinel, who, seeing himself thus attacked, called out the guard and fixed his bayonet, but through fear of wounding any of these strangers, he defended himself with the butt end of his musket; that when the guard and he the deponent had turned out,* they endeavoured to arrest the persons of those foreigners, who continued to resist, and it becoming necessary to employ the butt ends of their muskets for that purpose, they did so by order of the deponent. That when arrested they were placed in the guard-house prison, where there were no other prisoners at the time, and after being shut up, they continued to talk and throw everything about that was in the room, and to make a great noise. That on the deponent going to them and requesting them not to act in such a manner, and to tell him their names, they pretended not to understand the Portuguese language, and continued to behave in the same manner; that the deponent meanwhile sent to call a German who resides near the guard house to speak to them, who, on arrival, spoke in French to the shortest, now known as a lieutenant, requesting him to tell their names, and on this one speaking to the tallest, who we now know is a chaplain, addressed himself to the deponent with their names written on a paper, but the said chaplain hesitated to deliver it, tore up the paper, and threw it on the floor. That he does not know the name of the interpreter, and only knows that he resides on the same hill, in a house next to an individual known by the name of "the Commander." That the German told the deponent, that the answers given by the strangers to whom he spoke were insulting to the deponent and the detachment. That the prisoners continuing to be turbulent, and principally the chaplain, they were separated, two of them being left in the prison, and the chaplain removed to a room which served as a refectory, and thus they passed the night; and on the following morning, at about eight o'clock, they were sent under escort of seven soldiers to the city prison, accompanied by a report to the respective sub-delegate, and on foot, because there were no orders to forward prisoners in any other manner. That not one of these individuals under arrest declared that he was a naval officer, nor could the deponent, from their behaviour, be convinced that they were such. That on the occasion of their attack upon the sentry, and during their subsequent conduct in prison, they showed that they were elated from excessive use of spirituous liquors; one of them arrived carrying a metal flask strung across his shoulder,† which contained that description of drink. That all the three arrived dressed in plain clothes, and without any signs of being officers, or of belonging to the navy, nor did they make any

* Up to this moment, according to the ensign's own confession, he has been relating what he did not see. But the officers say that this ensign did not appear till about ten minutes after they had been imprisoned in the guard-house.—W. D. C.

† This metal flask was an opera-glass slung over the chaplain's shoulder.—W. D. C.

any declaration to this deponent; but it is true that they asked for paper and playing cards, which on being given to them the chaplain wrote a note to the Consul, and sealed it, which was not forwarded for want of the means of conveyance. On this deponent being asked whether he remembered the name of the soldier who was on duty as sentry, he answered, that his name is Manoel Luis Teixeira. On his being asked how many soldiers answered to the call of the sentry, in order to secure the foreigners, he replied they were about eight, and that he remembered that among the number were the soldiers Britto, Albino, Domingos, Pereira, Parente, and the quartermaster Gonçalves.

(signed) *Antonio Luis Xavier de Mello, Clerk.*
Agostinho Luis da Gama.
Braz Cupertino do Amaral, Ensign.

DEPOSITIONS.

DEPOSITION of the Police Soldier, *Manoel Luis Teixeira.*

ON the same day hereinbefore written, the soldier of the police corps, Manoel Luis Teixeira came and appeared before the chief of police, and by virtue of the questions put to him, he answered as follows:—

That on the 17th of last month, at about 7 o'clock in the evening, he, the deponent, being on duty as sentry at the door of the guard-house of the detachment of Tijuca, he saw three individuals descend the hill, who appeared to be foreigners, ill clad, who, meeting a passer-by on horseback, going up, seized the bridle and made the horse stop, but the horseman went shortly on his way, after abusing them on account of their behaviour. That they then proceeded to the guard-house, and went up to the steps in front, and the tallest of them asked the deponent what he was doing there; to which he replied that that was a guard-house, and that if they had no business there they were to retire: to which that individual retorted, that "Brazilian soldiers are a miserable set, and were to be held by the trowsers and well kicked;" accompanying that saying by endeavouring to lay hold of his, the deponent's leg, upon which the other two companions of the aggressor, armed with sticks, attacked the deponent, who, in order to defend himself from the former, hit him with the butt-end of his gun, and fixed on his bayonet against the other two, calling out the guard, when the commandant and soldiers of the detachment came out to effect the imprisonment of those strangers who did not choose to surrender. That after their imprisonment, the commander of the detachment sent an individual who speaks French or Spanish to ask them their names, and the shortest of them wrote the names on a paper, but as he was going to deliver it to the commander, the tallest of them took the paper from him and tore it up. That when those individuals addressed the deponent they spoke in Portuguese, and did not declare that they were officers. That when attacked he was acting as sentry inside the building, and that when secured the three strangers were placed in the guard-house prison, where they passed the night, and were on the following morning sent to the prison of this department, he, the deponent, forming one of the escort.

(signed) *Antonio Joaquim Xavier de Mello, Clerk.*
Agostinho Luis da Gama.
Manoel Luis Teixeira.

DEPOSITION of the Quartermaster of the Police Corps, *João Gonçalves da Silva.*

AND on the same day hereinbefore written came and appeared the quartermaster of police corps, João Gonçalves da Silva, who, by virtue of the questions put to him by the chief of police, replied as follows:—

That he, the deponent, forming a part of the detachment at Tijuca, on the 17th of last month, three strangers at about 7 o'clock at night, clad in plain clothes approached the guard-house, and the tallest of the three addressing the sentry, asked him what he was doing there; and upon the sentry telling him that that was a guard-house, the said individual raising the stick which he carried,* attacked the sentry, for which reason the latter repelled him with the butt-end of his musket and called out the guard, when the ensign commanding

* He had no stick, only an umbrella; but this witness is describing what he did not see.—W. D. C.

commanding the detachment, he, the deponent, and the rest of the soldiers forming it came out,* and proceeded to arrest the aggressors, who, after resisting, were locked up in the prison of the guard house, where they passed the night, and were on the following day removed to the prison of the police in this city, and on foot, because there was no order to conduct the prisoners in a coach, he, the deponent, forming part of the escort; that when those strangers were in the prison, the commander of the detachment asked them to tell their names, and the tallest of them having written them on a paper did not choose to deliver it to that officer, but tore it up and threw it away.

(signed) *Antonio Joaquim Xavier de Mello, Clerk.*
Agostinho Luis da Gama.
João Gonçalves da Silva.

DEPOSITION of the Soldier of the Police Corps, *Manoel Parente Ribeiro.*

AND on the same day hereinbefore written, came and appeared the soldier of the police corps, Manoel Parente Ribeiro, who, by virtue of the questions put to him by the chief of police, replied as follows:—

That he was not present at the imprisonment of the three Englishmen, because he was away patrolling at Tijuca, but that on his return to the detachment after 11 o'clock at night, he heard those individuals making a great noise in the prison; the most excited of them was the tallest and bald-headed, who used scornful expressions about the soldiers and nation. That when he went on his rounds he met with them on the road, and that the tallest of them, the same who was the most troublesome in the prison, pointed to the patrol with his stick; but that the deponent seeing that they were tipsy, the patrol passed, leaving them behind. That on the deponent's return to the guard-house, his companions told him that those strangers were imprisoned for having addressed the sentry, and asked him what he was doing there; and the sentry having replied, that that was a guard-house and desired them to retire, one of them retorted, that "the soldiers of Brazil were a miserable set, and were to be held by their trowsers and thrown away," accompanying that language with threats.† That the sentry had defended himself with the butt-end of his musket and called out the guard, upon which the commander of the detachment and the soldiers having come out and endeavoured to arrest the aggressors, the tallest of them struggled with the soldier Albino, wrenched the small brush from his uniform, tearing the latter, and was finally placed with the others in the prison, where they passed the night, without declaring that they were officers.‡ The deponent further declared that the stranger who struggled with the soldier Albino is the one whom he now recognizes as the lieutenant, and not the tallest, who is said to be the chaplain.§ That all of them were in plain clothes, without any signs whereby they might be known as officers. That on the following day they were placed in the city prison, having been escorted on foot from Tijuca.

(signed) *Antonio Joaquim Xavier de Mello, Clerk.*
Agostino Luis da Gama.
Manoel Parente Ribeiro.

In continuation, Clemenger, chaplain; Pringle, lieutenant; and Hornby, midshipman of the English frigate "Forte," being present, the chief of police caused to be read to them the declarations made by the officers and soldiers, translated from the Portuguese into the English language by the sworn interpreter, João Baptista Cosmelli, and they all maintained the correctness of the remonstrance made by Admiral Warren, it being a true narration of the facts; and in regard to the declarations read to them, that they contained inaccuracies in some parts, and in others were contrary to the truth; that they had told the officer that they belonged to the "Forte" frigate, one of them being an officer, another being a midshipman, and another a chaplain, saying it in Spanish, which was well understood by the officer, and subsequently in French to a German, who was called by that officer to serve as interpreter. That it is true they were not in uniform, but that besides the declarations they had made, the midshipman had on a waistcoat with anchor buttons. That they were passing peaceably when the sentry, who was at about six feet distant from them, called to them, and on their approaching the place where the sentry stood, they asked him what he wanted; this being followed by a thump, without the sentry having stirred from his post, when he called out the guard, and a number of soldiers immediately came out, who beat them with their swords and arrested them without any opposition on their part; that on the appearance of the other soldiers, the sentry came down into the road and gave a second blow with the butt-end of his gun. That even after being in prison the officer was there beaten by the soldiers, and that the one who most distinguished himself

* This quartermaster could know nothing of what occurred of his own knowledge up to this moment.—W. D. C.

† All this is confessedly hearsay evidence.—W. D. C.

‡ How could he know which struggled with Albino, as he was not present.—W. D. C.

himself in that aggression wore two stripes on the arm of his uniform, and that they could single him out again on seeing him. That when they were ordered to come to the city they proposed being sent in the "machambomba" (omnibus), they paying the expense, but that they met with a refusal; that this is the truth; that they were not intoxicated, because they had only drunk at dinner two bottles of Bordeaux wine; that they brought no flask of spirits with them, but only a telescope, which was taken for a flask. That the declarations which relate to the chaplain, and which assert that he carried a stick, are inaccurate, because he only carried an umbrella, and that it was the other two who carried sticks; that the lieutenant besides his walking stick carried another stick which he had bought on the road; that the lieutenant was behind the others when his companions reached the sentry, and that on his approaching he was also assaulted. And when these replies were read to them by the interpreter, finding them correct, they affixed their signatures hereunto along with me, the clerk, the chief of police, and the interpreter.

(signed) *Antonio Joaquim Xavier de Mello*, Clerk.
Agostinho Luis da Gama.
George G. W. Clemenger, Chaplain of Her Majesty's ship "Forte."
Geoffrey Hornby, Midshipman of Her Majesty's ship "Forte."
John Eliot Pringle, Acting Lieutenant of Her Majesty's ship "Forte."
Joao Baptista Cosmelli, Interpreter.

DEPOSITION of *Robert Bennett*.

On the 4th day of July 1862, came and appeared before the Chief of Police in his office in this city, Robert Bennett, a native of England, residing at Tijuca, who, by virtue of the questions put to him by the Chief of Police, replied as follows:—That one day of the last month, perhaps a fortnight ago, he, the deponent, being at home, saw three individuals passing in front of his house, who appeared to be Englishmen, singing merrily, and returning from his hotel where they had dined; and that on the following morning, learning that they had been imprisoned on the preceding evening for having quarrelled with the guard at Tijuca, he asked the manager of his hotel what liquors they had been served with, when he was told that the three had had two bottles of Bordeaux wine and half a bottle of cognac; he, the deponent, not knowing whether the said three Englishmen had taken any other liquor in any of the other inns between his hotel and the guard-house.*

(signed) *Antonio Joaquim Xavier de Mello*, Clerk.
Agostinho Luis da Gama.
Robert Bennett.

DEPOSITION of *Rodolph Müller*.

And at the same place, and on the same day last before-written, came and appeared Rodolph Müller, a native of Austria, residing at Andarahy pequeno (Tijuca), and by virtue of the questions put to him he deposed as follows:—That on the night of the 17th of June last he, the deponent, being at home, was called by the ensign commanding the detachment at Tijuca to go and speak with him; and on his reaching the guard-house, that officer told him that three Englishmen then present had been made prisoners for having wanted to beat the sentinel, and as they appeared to be ignorant of the Portuguese language he requested the deponent to act as interpreter, and to tell them the reason of their imprisonment by competent authority, and to demand their names. That the deponent complying therewith, and having explained to them his position, they answered him crossly, without declaring their ranks as officers of the English navy; that they afterwards called for beds to sleep on, and being told by the commanding officer, through the deponent, that there were none, but that he would voluntarily cede his own to them, they refused to accept it, because it could not accommodate all the three. That he observed the three Englishmen not to be in their perfect senses, it appearing to him that they had drunk too much, the tallest of them being the most disorderly and unreasonable.

(signed) *Antonio Joaquim Xavier de Mello*, Clerk.
Agostinho Luis da Gama.
Rodolph Müller.

* How could he know what they did or did not take, elsewhere? This is an impertinent insinuation.—
W. D. C.

DEPOSITION of *Domingos José da Silveira*, Corporal of the Police Force.

On the same 4th of July 1862, in the police office of this city, came and appeared before the respective Chief of Police, Domingos José da Silveira, a corporal in the police corps, and by virtue of the questions put to him he replied as follows:—That on the 17th of June last, at half-past seven at night, this deponent, being inside the guard-house at Tijuca, heard the sentry calling out the guard, and that on coming out with the other soldiers he saw three strangers wrestling with the sentry, trying to throw him over the parapet on which he stood; that he, the deponent, and the soldiers endeavoured by fair means to separate the strangers without any employment of force, but that their efforts proving useless, as the strangers showed themselves desperate, violently repelling the soldiers and struggling with them, so much so that one of them, not the tallest, seized the deponent and threw him down, from which fall he was wounded in the middle finger of his right hand, the scar of which still exists. That finally the detachment having succeeded in arresting those three foreigners, they were placed in a room which serves as a refectory; that after the imprisonment of the strangers they were treated with the greatest civility by the officer in command, who gave them paper, and even playing cards, they having asked for both; that the said officer sent to call a foreigner who resides in that neighbourhood, and who speaks Portuguese, to find out from the prisoners who and what they are, which they did not choose to tell; that the said strangers were in a disordered state of mind, and that the tallest of them carried a flask slung across his shoulder; that soon after this affray it became known that the said strangers had come from the Hill of Tijuca, wrangling with the passers by, first with a woman, then with an equestrian,* seizing the reins of his horse, and that on approaching the sentry, who was standing on a parapet, they asked him, in very intelligible Portuguese, what he was doing there; and upon the sentry telling them that that was a military post commanded by an officer, they contended with him for a few moments, attempting to lay hold of his legs and to throw him over the parapet, when the sentry, in order to free himself from that aggression, shoved one of them off with the butt end of his gun, and backing himself against the house, called out the guard; that while the prisoners were in the guard-house not one of them ever declared that they were officers in the English navy.

(signed) *Antonio Joaquim Xavier de Mello*, Clerk.
Agostinho Luis da Gama.
Domingos José da Silveira.

OBSERVATIONS OF OFFICERS.

Messrs. *Clemenger*, *Pringle*, and *Hornby*, to Rear-Admiral *Warren*.

Sir,

"Forte," Rio de Janeiro, 16 August 1862.

IN compliance with your order, we, the undersigned, have the honour to submit to you some observations on the accompanying depositions:—

B. C. do Amaral, Ensign, and Officer of Guard.—1. The depositions of the officer of the guard relative to our proceedings previous to being put in the guard-house prison, we entirely repudiate, as he did not make his appearance for 10 minutes after that time, and his evidence is grounded upon hearsay, and we therefore do not acknowledge it in any way up to this time.

2. That so far from throwing everything about in the guard-house prison, it was an impossibility to do so, as there were no moveable articles there, nor did we create a disturbance there.

3. That the officer of the guard requested our names, and that we gave them in full, with rank and ship, on two separate occasions, written on a piece of paper which he provided for that purpose, and one of which papers he himself threw on the floor in a contemptuous manner after reading it. That an Austrian appeared and acted as interpreter; and that Lieutenant *Pringle* states, that he made the ensign fully aware of our names, rank, and ship, through the interpreter, as well as of the treatment we had received during his absence from the guard.

4. That we all removed to the room called the refectory during the evening, where we gave our names as above stated, and conversed with the ensign personally, as well as through the Austrian. That we were not separated on account of making a disturbance, nor was Mr. *Clemenger* removed to another room, inasmuch as Messrs. *Clemenger* and *Hornby* slept in the refectory, and Lieutenant *Pringle* voluntarily in the prison, he preferring it as sleeping quarters; this being the way we passed the night.

5. That

* Why were not this woman and the equestrian produced? Not one witness has said that he saw these scenes.—W. D. C.

5. That none of us carried a metal flask slung across the shoulder, but that Mr. Clemenger had one which contained no spirituous liquor, and had an opera-glass slung across his shoulder.

6. That Mr. Clemenger also wrote to Captain Saumarez.

M. L. Teixeira, Sentry.—1. That we stopped no horse in the vicinity of the guard-house by checking the bridle, nor do we recollect seeing one there.

2. That we did not ascend the steps of the guard-house or make any attack on the sentry, neither did we use any disparaging reflections on the Brazilian soldiery, as we cannot speak the Portuguese language.

3. That on passing close to the guard-house the sentry advanced and challenged Mr. Clemenger, who stopped and replied in Spanish, "*Que quere V.?*" when the sentry immediately struck him on the breast with the butt of his rifle. That no attempt was made by Mr. Clemenger to seize the sentry's leg. That the statement of our attacking the sentry with sticks is entirely false, as well as that the officer of the guard turned out with the guard who attacked us.

4. That Messrs. Clemenger and Hornby did not offer the slightest resistance to the guard, neither did Lieutenant Pringle until he had been very roughly handled, although we were all struck repeatedly with the backs of drawn swords and bayonets. The remainder of this witness's evidence has been confuted.

J. C. da Silva, Quartermaster.—1. That the tallest, who addressed the sentry, did not raise his stick, as he merely carried a light umbrella; nor did he in any way attack or molest the sentry.

2. That the officer commanding the detachment did not turn out with the aggressing guard. No new matter being opened by this witness's evidence, we consider it unnecessary to make any further reply.

M. P. Ribeiro, Private.—1. That we could not have made a noise in the prison after 11 o'clock, as Lieutenant Pringle was the only person in the prison at that hour, he being then asleep.

2. That we deny that Mr. Clemenger pointed at the patrol with his stick as he had none.

R. Müller.—1. Lieutenant Pringle states that he spoke German to this witness, and through him gave verbally to the officer of the guard our ranks and ship, and also answered questions which were put to him through witness by the ensign; and Lieutenant Pringle feels quite satisfied that the ensign perfectly understood him by the suitable replies that he received.

2. We should desire an opportunity of confronting this witness.

D. J. da Silveira, Corporal.—1. We beg leave to state that at half-past seven o'clock on the afternoon of 17 June 1862, we had been prisoners for three-quarters of an hour, and consequently could not have been descending the hill at that time.

2. We have totally denied having ascended the steps of the guard-house, nor did we wrestle with the sentinel or try to throw him over the parapet, such an operation being impossible from the road on which we were passing.

3. We have before stated that Messrs. Clemenger and Hornby made no resistance to the guard, who grossly maltreated them, striking them repeatedly with the backs of drawn swords and bayonets after they were prisoners.

4. We have already denied molesting passengers. The rest of this witness's evidence has already been answered.

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS.

STARTING from Botafogo at 8 a.m., on June 17, on foot, we arrived by the sea-road at Bennett's lower hotel at about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, where we each drank one glass of brandy and seltzer water, and ordered dinner whilst we strolled about the grounds. About 5 o'clock we dined, at which we drank two bottles of Bordeaux between the three. This, together with the above, was all the liquor we partook of. At 6 o'clock we started to catch the last "*machambomba*," which leaves at 7 o'clock for the city. On our route, we had no refreshments of any kind; we met many passengers, but so far from molesting them, we gave several blacks coppers; we also met the patrol, but took no notice of them.

On arriving at the Tijuca guard-house, Messrs. Clemenger and Hornby, being some yards in advance of Lieutenant Pringle, the former walking on the extreme left of the road, in passing very near the guard-house, was accosted by a sentry who moved towards him. Mr. Clemenger stopped and asked him what he wanted in Spanish, (*"Que quiere V.?"*). The words were scarcely uttered, when he received a blow on the chest from the sentinel's musket, who, at the same time, called for the guard, which immediately turned out with drawn swords and bayonets, and came down on the road and attacked Messrs. Clemenger and Hornby, who offered not the slightest resistance. Lieutenant Pringle coming up at this time, was received in the same cowardly manner, and, after remonstrating, endeavoured to free himself from the cowardly assault and renew his journey, but was overpowered; during which time Mr. Clemenger received a second blow on his chest, and we were all three brutally struck and maltreated, even after Lieutenant Pringle had been secured; he, while in a helpless position, received a vicious thrust in the left groin from the butt of the sentinel's musket. We were then driven into the guard-house prison, most unnecessary force being used, and then locked up; we immediately, through the bars, requested the guard to send for the officer, who had not up to this time made his appearance. He arrived in 10 minutes or a quarter of an hour, accompanied by a soldier who evidently had been sent for him, but he would not listen to us until he had asked questions of most of the men composing the guard. We were then called out of the prison one by one to explain matters to the ensign, who seemed very much excited, and were removed to a room called the refectory, where Mr. Clemenger, in compliance with the ensign's request, wrote our names and ranks on a piece of paper provided for that purpose, and we gave him most fully to understand that we were British naval officers; Mr. Clemenger gave him our names and ranks again later in the evening. An Austrian was sent for to act as interpreter, and Lieutenant Pringle states that he spoke to this man in German, and, through him, fully explained our ranks, and that we were British naval officers; Lieutenant Pringle feels perfectly satisfied that he was understood on this point, by the suitable answers that he received; the attention of the ensign being at the same time called to the naval buttons which Mr. Hornby wore in his waistcoat. The officer of the guard provided us with writing materials, with which Mr. Clemenger wrote one letter to Captain Saumarez, and one to the British Consul, which letters the ensign promised should be forwarded early the following morning, which promise was never fulfilled; we have since had a paltry excuse offered, that he had no means to forward the latter, but the one to Captain Saumarez, the address of which might alone have indicated our profession, he affects to ignore.

In the course of the evening we gave the ensign to understand that we should, as soon as possible, call him to account for his conduct towards us; he then called our attention to the fact that he had removed us from the prison to the refectory directly he understood we were British naval officers.

We passed the night as follows:—Lieutenant Pringle removing to the prison, which he preferred as sleeping quarters, Messrs. Clemenger and Hornby occupying the refectory.

On the following morning, June 18th, we were told to prepare to march into Rio under an escort, and on objecting to this ignominy, requested a passage in the "*machambomba*," or a conveyance, the expenses of which we offered to defray. This was refused, the reason given by the ensign through the Austrian, who acted as interpreter, being that although we were officers, yet we were ordinary prisoners.

At 9 o'clock we started on foot under an escort of seven, and arrived at the city police court at 11 o'clock; we here again wrote our names, rank, and ship, and were sent into a filthy den, where were collected men and boys of the dregs of society. At the threshold of this detention room, I again asked the official whether he was fully aware that we were English officers; he said that he was, and we were locked up. Managing to communicate with the British Consul, he came and interceded for us, and after we had been two hours, we were removed to a less dirty one, where four or five prisoners were; after a lapse of another hour and a half, we were removed to the police barracks, where we were very civilly treated.

At 11.30 a. m., June 19, we were released by written order of the chief of police, but no reason was assigned.

In the original charges preferred against us by the officer of the guard, of which we received a copy, no allusion was made to our insobriety, which fabrication appears to have been used to give colour to their statements, which they were obliged to make in order to screen their dastardly proceedings.

In conclusion, we beg leave to state that we were most decidedly sober.

(signed)

G. G. W. Clemenger, Chaplain.
J. Eliot Pringle, Acting Lieutenant.
Geoffrey Hornby, Midshipman.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Rio de Janeiro, 19 August 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of statements made by the three officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte," who were imprisoned by the guard of Tijuca on the 17th of June, after they had read the report of the chief of police to M. Sinimbu, and the depositions taken in the inquiries of 2d and 4th of July.

These depositions, of which I asked your Excellency for a copy immediately after receiving your note of 17th July, I received from M. Sinimbu in original, in the evening of 2d of August, in consequence of a note which I had addressed to him on the same day, begging him to hurry the sending of the copies promised by your Excellency; and it then appeared that the making of the promised copies had not been begun, and that M. Sinimbu was under the impression that they had been long before sent to me.

Your Excellency will perceive from the inclosed document that the three officers totally and indignantly deny the statements of the Brazilian ensign and his witnesses. They deny that they were intoxicated; they deny the allegation of disorderly conduct on the road; they declare that the guard began the assault; they declare that they were treated with brutal violence; and they declare that they gave their names, and proclaimed their profession and ranks, and that these were immediately and perfectly known to the ensign of the guard, and to the officer who received them at the Rio police station. Various statements of the officers on minor points merit your Excellency's attention.

It will not escape your Excellency's penetration that of four witnesses who relate in detail the beginning of the fray, imputing misconduct to the English officers, only one could speak of his own knowledge, and the rest could know only what they heard from that one whose evidence they all faithfully reproduced.

The British officers declare that the ensign did not make his appearance until 10 minutes after they were imprisoned in the guard-house, and that then he was fetched. He himself states that he turned out with the guard. According to his own statement, his evidence is worthless up to the moment of his turning out with the guard; having by his own confession declared as to what he did not see before that moment, he is as likely to declare to what he did not see afterwards. If he was absent from the guard-house when the disturbance began, he would not be likely to own to this breach of duty.

The three officers wish to be confronted with the German Müller, whose statements they deny.

I regret that no attention was paid to my first urgent request that the inquiry should be held immediately. It is clear that the interval from the 23d June, when I saw your Excellency's secretary, to the 2d July, added to the six days already elapsed since the event, gave superabundant time for concoction of a false story in defence of a proceeding which had caused general disgust and indignation.

I regret to see that the chief of police in his report to M. Sinimbu of 5th July, explains his liberation of the officers on the 19th June without inquiry or apology, by imputing inebriety, when the report of the ensign of the Tijuca guard to the sub-delegate of Engenho Velho, which at that time was all his information, makes no such charge.

I lately expressed to your Excellency, in conversation, my regret that the Imperial Government had not hitherto proceeded in this matter with more promptitude and zeal. I will not yet give up the hope that, better appreciating the character of this lamentable event, the Government of the Emperor will anticipate any demand from Her Majesty's Government, to whom I have made a full report, by a spontaneous offer of suitable satisfaction for a shameful outrage, aggravated by the attempt to impute intoxication to the aggrieved officers.

I avail, &c.
(signed) W. D. Christie.

Earl Russell to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, 8 October 1862.

HER Majesty's Government have read with great regret your Despatches Nos. 62 and 68 of the 7th and 23rd of August, reporting the serious outrage committed on the 17th of June by a Brazilian police guard on three officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte."

Her Majesty's Government have carefully considered the depositions and evidence taken in this case, and they can come to no other conclusion, but that the version given by the three officers is true, and that the defence set up by the Brazilians is unworthy of credit.

The officers state that having obtained leave to go out on a pleasure excursion, they dined temperately at an hotel on the Tijuca Hill, and were hurrying back to catch the omnibus for Rio, when they passed the sentry of the guard-house at Tijuca; that Mr. Clemenger, the chaplain, who was in advance with Mr. Hornby, was approached by the sentry; and that he had scarcely time to ask, in Spanish, what the sentry wanted, before he was struck by the butt of the sentry's musket and stabbed at with his bayonet; that the sentry at the same time called out the guard, who rushed upon the three officers, and, after much violence, drove them into the guard-house, Lieutenant Pringle alone having made any resistance whatever to the brutal violence that was used against them; that on being lodged in the guard-house prison, they asked to see the officer of the guard, who, after the lapse of ten minutes or a quarter of an hour, made his appearance for the first time; that they immediately gave on paper their full names and rank, first direct to the officer, and secondly through an interpreter, and wrote to their captain and to the British Consul to inform them of their position, but these letters, it appears, were withheld, and not forwarded to their destination.

That two of the party were confined for the night in a room called the "refectory," and the third in the prison; and that on the following morning they were ignominiously marched on foot, guarded by an escort (though they offered to pay for a conveyance), to the city police court at Rio, where they again wrote out their names and rank.

That they were then put into a filthy prison among criminals of the lowest class, the prison official admitting that he was aware that they were British officers; and that, after the lapse of two hours, and at the intercession of the British Consul, with whom they had managed to communicate, they were removed into a less dirty prison, and subsequently to the police barracks, where, at last, they were civilly treated.

That at half-past eleven on the following morning they were released by a written order of the chief of the police, no reasons being given for their imprisonment or for their liberation. Such is, shortly, the story of these officers, taken from their depositions; and as they have never varied in their statements, which are probable and consistent, and as they have expressed a strong desire to be confronted with the adverse witnesses, Her Majesty's Government are impressed with the conviction, confirmed by the character of the parties as officers and gentlemen, that their story is strictly true.

On the other hand, the version of the affair given by the Brazilian police is supported by evidence in which no confidence can be placed. They state that the officers were drunk, and that they annoyed the passers-by on the road between the hotel and the guard-house, but it is remarkable that no passer-by has been produced to give evidence on this point, and that in the original charge preferred against them by the officer of the police guard, of which a copy was given them, no mention was made of their being drunk, and no witnesses have been produced who had been annoyed by them on the road.

You justly animadvert in your Despatch on the evidence of the officer and soldiers of the guard, who have deposed as to the circumstances of the commencement of the affray between the British officers and the sentry, when, by their own admission, they were not present at the time; and it is to be observed that the Brazilian officer more particularly has deposed to all the circumstances of the struggle with the guard, while it is positively affirmed that he did not appear until 10 minutes after the prisoners were lodged in the guard-house prison.

It is impossible to believe on other points the evidence of a witness whose statement is so palpably untrue on this point, and Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that the officer of the Brazilian guard was perfectly aware of the nationality and rank of his prisoners.

Her Majesty's Government cannot submit to leave such an outrage unatoned for, and you will therefore embody the foregoing remarks in a note to the Brazilian Government, warning them at the same time of the serious light in which Her Majesty's Government have viewed the case; and you will demand—

1. That the ensign of the guard shall be dismissed from the service.
2. That the sentry who commenced the attack shall be adequately punished.
3. That an apology be made by the Brazilian Government for this outrage on British naval officers; and.
4. That the chief of the police and the official at the Rio police station shall receive a public censure.

I shall acquaint you, by another opportunity, with the measures which Her Majesty's Government propose to take in the event of the Brazilian Government refusing to comply with these demands.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Russell.*

BRAZILIAN MEMORANDUM on the Question of the Officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte," and Mr. Christie's Reply.

*Brazilian Memorandum.**Mr. Christie's Reply.*

1. "HER Britannic Majesty's Legation having complained of the proceeding attributed to the commandant and soldiers of the detachment at Tijuca towards some officers of the English frigate "Forte," the Imperial Government sought for information about the facts of the case, through the means of the competent authorities, in order to be enabled to form a sure judgment respecting the claim, and to resolve according to what might be just, because nobody should be condemned without proofs, and these cannot be substituted by the simple allegations of complainants.

2. "The fact took place in a lonesome situation. It became therefore necessary to put questions to the commandant and soldiers of this detachment, who, in the exercise of their duties, practised that fact; premising that the information given by those agents of the public force was confirmed by two persons completely foreign to the question; to wit, Messrs. Bennett and Müller.

3. "Mr. Christie wished to have copies of these inquiries, which were frankly confided to him in the originals. His Excellency soon afterwards transmitted to the Government the contradiction of those inquiries by Messieurs the Chaplain Clemenger, Lieutenant Pringle, and Midshipman Hornby.

4. "Certainly, Mr. Christie cannot but acknowledge that, however honourable the characters of those persons may be, their allegations are not sufficient for the formation of proofs in a court of justice, although there might be no other proofs to the contrary, because they are produced by the complainants themselves.

"It would be contrary to all principles, and extremely dangerous, to condemn the accused from mere allegations of the accuser.

"If Her Britannic Majesty's Legation places its faith on what the officers of her Navy said, there is no reason whatever why the Imperial Government should refuse that of its agents.

5. "There is, however, the circumstance of the depositions of the Brazilian agents being corroborated by two completely disinterested witnesses, which, upon unprejudiced minds, must shed some light over this difficult question, and leave the impartial magistrate to believe it more probable that the truth is on the side that presents declarations of persons absolutely foreign to the fact inquired into.

6. "Mr. Christie complains that no solution has yet been given to his note of the 19th of August. What could the Imperial Government in truth do? There were no more witnesses to be questioned, all possible proofs had been collected, and against these

1. THE affray took place on the 17th of June. I demanded an immediate inquiry on the 23d, stating the desire of the Admiral that the three officers should be examined without delay, as he was about to leave for Monte Video, and wished to take the three officers with him. No attention was paid to this; the Admiral was obliged to leave the three officers behind for examination; and after much trouble, reminding, and pressing, I at last succeeded in getting an investigation by the Chief of Police, begun on the 2d of July.

2. The sentry's post, which is close to the Tijuca road, is not a "retired place." Further on, in the "Memorandum," it is correctly stated, that "the Tijuca road is one of the most frequented in the suburbs." Of course, it was necessary to hear the officer and soldiers, as well as the complainants. There is nothing in Mr. Bennett's evidence to confirm the Brazilian statements.

3. These documents, so "frankly" communicated to me, I had demanded as of right; and they were sent to me in original, because, with a not unusual negligence, nothing had been done by the 2d of August towards making copies which had been promised me.

4. But a complaint of three officers of Her Majesty's Navy is worthy of attention, and even of belief, if there is no trustworthy contrary evidence. There were no independent witnesses of the fray. The German Müller is the only extraneous witness of any part of what happened at the Tijuca guard-house on the first night, and the worth of his evidence can be estimated. There are the chaplain, a lieutenant, and a midshipman of the British Navy on one side, against a Brazilian ensign and four Brazilian soldiers on the other; and if the former are accusers, the latter are accused.

5. That is, there is necessary equality between the three accusers and the five accused; and M. Müller's evidence alone makes it clear that the truth is entirely on the side of the accused.

6. Mr. Christie should, in any case, have been answered; and if the Brazilian Government were convinced that the complaint was unfounded, why did they not answer to that effect? The natural inference from their not answering was, that they could not defend

Brazilian Memorandum.

what fresh matter was presented was the contestations of the complainants.

7. "The English officers expressed a desire to be confronted with the German, Müller, whose deposition they rejected. But the Chief of Police reports that, after the 2d of July, those officers did not appear again at the department under his charge, even voluntarily leaving off attendance at the interrogatories of Messrs. Bennett and Müller.

"That, however, would not prevent the availing of that recourse again, if therefrom some more elucidation of the question could be obtained.

8. "Having made these preliminary observations upon the generality of the process, it is proper to reply to the divers topics of Mr. Christie's note of the 19th of August last.

9. "He observes that of the four witnesses who circumstantially relate the commencement of the question, only one of them could from his own knowledge, because the others could only repeat what they heard from him, whose testimony they faithfully reproduced.

"It is, however, proper for Mr. Christie to consider that, besides the commandant of the detachment, four soldiers were interrogated. It is true that the beginning of the conflict was with the sentinel, but it is also true that he immediately called out the guard, and that the other soldiers who were in the guard-house having directly come out, all of them, the commandant and the soldiers, were present at the struggle which followed.

"All the depositions are concordant that the sentry was at his post; that the complaining officers were the aggressors; that even before reaching the detachment they had been troublesome to a patrol which they met on the road, and that in front of the quarters of the detachment they had stopped a passer-by, who was going up the hill on horseback.

"The evident result of these declarations is, that the soldiers and their respective commandant were present at the conflict, and that their depositions refer to facts of which they were eye-witnesses.

"They are simple facts, and it is no wonder that there should be unanimity in the statements of them made by the witnesses in their generality, although showing different versions respecting secondary circumstances, as is always the case on similar occasions; as, for example, about the precise moment of the conflict, the noise made by the officers in the guard-house, and other facts of minor importance.

10. "Mr. Christie further says, 'The English officers declared that the commandant only appeared 10 minutes after their imprisonment, and that consequently his deposition is not worthy of being credited; because having declared that which he had not previously seen, it is to be supposed that he had declared what he had not afterwards

Mr. Christie's Reply.

fend the proceeding, and were unwilling to disown it.

7. From the 19th of August, when I wrote to the Marquis of Abrantes, declaring the desire of the officers to be confronted with Müller, no step was taken by the Chief of Police for bringing them together. The three officers who had been examined on the 2d of July were not asked to appear on the 4th, when Bennett and Müller were examined, and had no information of the intention to examine them.

8. After all, it is proper to answer my note of the 19th of August, which a little before there was no use in answering.

9. What I said was that, until the others came out, being called out by the sentry, there was only one witness. That the officer appeared at that time is a question in dispute. It is said that all the testimonies agree in saying that the attack began from the British officers; but the beginning of the fray is the very point for which there is only one Brazilian ocular witness, the sentry on guard. It is also said that all agree in saying that the three officers, before their arrival at the guard-house, had annoyed the patrol, and had stopped a gentleman on horseback. Now, only four out of the five speak of these things; and of the four one only professes to speak from personal knowledge of the interference with the patrol, and one only professes to have seen the horseman stopped. The rest simply repeat what they had heard said. The "evident" conclusion, then, of the memorandum is not correct, that "the depositions of the officer and soldiers refer to facts of which they were ocular witnesses." The general agreement is not in the least to be wondered at, because where a witness cannot speak of his own knowledge, he repeats what he has heard from others.

10. It is not very probable that the soldiers would contradict their officer on this point. Of course, the officer might be absent for a few minutes, with good reason; but if it were otherwise, he would not wish his absence known.

*Brazilian Memorandum.**Mr. Christie's Reply.*

afterwards seen; that he was absent when the disturbance began. It is presumable that he himself would not confess a breach of his duty.

"Not only the declarations of the commandant, but also those of the soldiers of the detachment, which are all unanimous in stating that, upon the calling of the sentry to arms, the commandant came out and pacified the officers until they were locked up, are contradicted by the English officers.

"Let Mr. Christie take note that there was no reason why the commandant, if he had been absent, should not have said so; because he might have absented himself at 10 minutes' distance from the guard-house upon any other service, without any blame being imputed to him on this account as a dereliction of his duty.

11. "Mr. Christie regrets that the Chief of Police in his report to the Minister of Justice, under date of the 5th of July, should have explained, by the imputation of inebriety, the release of the English officers, and this without any inquiry or justification; and he adds, that that imputation is not mentioned in the report of the commandant of the detachment at Tijuca, to the Sub-Delegate of Engenho Velho, the only one that the Chief of Police possessed on that occasion.

"This magistrate declared that he had ordered the release of the officers, finding that there was no matter for a process, because the acts of the said officers were merely the result of the state in which they then were.

"Let Mr. Christie allow me to observe to him, that the Chief of Police, although he had not yet commenced a formal inquiry, was already aware that when the conflict took place the officers had just had a pleasure party, after which there is almost always a display of excitement and hilarity, which even happens to the most serious persons, principally to youths, without producing any injury to their character; and therefore it was to this animation that the Chief of Police attributed the proceedings of the officers, being without any reason to suppose that, under other circumstances, they would choose to despise the public force, and much less seriously to attack it.

"He therefore thought that there was no matter for the institution of a process, and ordered the release of the officers; the inquiry which subsequently took place was more for the purpose of verifying the proceedings of the agents of the public force than for that of establishing the culpability of the said officers.

12. "Certainly the circumstance of the officers appertaining to Her Britannic Majesty's navy, and the intervention of their superiors and of the respective Consul, had to be taken into consideration by the said Chief of Police; and if he did not sooner order the release of the officers, that is, when solicited by Captain Saumarez, it was because he had not yet received the official

11. It is unnecessary to enter into the question of this indiscreet statement of the Chief of Police, as I have admitted to the Marquis of Abrantes that a serious imputation was not intended, and have, in fact, accepted this explanation.

12. The Sub-Delegado is in fault for not having sent down his report, stating the charge of the officers, on the morning of the 18th. It was not there when Captain Saumarez went to the police office after 5 P.M., and was not received till the next morning, and indeed bears date the 19th.

*Brazilian Memorandum.**Mr. Christie's Reply.*

Report of the Sub-Delegate, whereby he might learn the reason of the imprisonment, and that the officers were placed at his disposal.

"In his Report of the 5th of July, the Chief of Police did nothing more than reproducing the allegations contained in the inquiry.

13. "The officers deny that they were tipsy, and complain of the imputation. But what did Robert Bennett and Rodolph Müller say in their declarations on this point?

14. "It is comprehensible that in that state the said officers should have proceeded in the manner stated by the witnesses; but it is not explained, nor is it conceivable, that the sentinel, without provocation, should have left his post, which is off the road, to attack three individuals who were quietly passing by on that road.

15. "The Tijuca road is one of the most frequented in the suburbs. The detachment has long existed there, and no representation has been made against acts of violence or exorbitance on the part of the soldiers of which it is composed; which leads to the conclusion that it would not be with the English officers, without provocation, that the first fact should take place.

"It is conceivable that the sentry having been provoked, and a struggle having followed between the English officers and the soldiers of the detachment, it became necessary to make use of some vigour in order to force the said officers into the prison. But that, after being confined, they were treated with urbanity, they themselves acknowledge.

16. "It was certainly from a desire to know the names and qualities of these persons that the commandant of the detachment sent for an interpreter. How is it, therefore, admissible, that the officers having given their names and qualities in writing, the commandant had thrown it on the floor after reading it.

"The English officers say that an Austrian served as an interpreter, and fully explained to the commandant their quality and profession, and that they replied to all his questions.

"But not only the commandant and the soldiers deny that such a declaration had been made, but, on the contrary, state that one of the officers having written their names, another of them seized the paper, tore it, and threw it on the ground: also, the very Austrian to whom the officers refer, the interpreter Müller, declared that on his explaining to the officers the reason why they were imprisoned, and asked them for their names and positions, they sharply answered him, without ever declaring one thing or another.

"It

13. Mr. Bennett does not say that the officers were under the influence of wine.

14. The attack on the sentry is easily explained. The sentry-box is close to the road, and at a very little higher level. It is off the road, but not retired. The sentry hailed the officers, who, being strangers, did not know the expected reply, or perhaps understand the hail. On the Chaplain's approaching the sentry with the words, "Que quiere?" Spanish words not understood by the latter, he (the sentry) proceeded at once, with a not unusual promptitude, to blows.

15. These acts of violence are generally not heard of.

16. The English officers on the one side, and the Brazilian witnesses on the other, are in complete conflict as to the declaration of names and professions. It is asked in the Memorandum what motive could the Brazilian ensign have for refusing to receive the declaration of the officers, or for denying it. Let it be asked in reply, what could have induced the officers, unless they were idiots, to withhold their names and ranks. Their object was to be released as soon as possible, and, if not released, to be well treated. What more likely to effect their object than to declare their profession? Even had they withheld their names and rank in the evening, would they have done so the next morning, when they were to be marched down to Rio on foot as common criminals? The Brazilian story is grossly improbable. It is even denied that they made known their names and ranks when they got to the Rio police office and were thrown into a filthy prison. To believe all this, it must be believed that the three officers are either deliberate liars or idiots. If once we are called upon to conjecture motives

Brazilian Memorandum.

"It is in some degree to be comprehended that the officers, cowed on finding themselves prisoners, did not choose to reveal their rank and profession, and that they should have satisfied themselves for the time with the threat, which they themselves declare having addressed to the commandant of the detachment, that they would soon call him to an account for his proceeding.

"On the following day, the officers being sent to the city, the commandant in his report, which accompanied them, did not mention their names, not having any reason for so doing, but rather full convenience in this declaration, if by chance he had known them.

17. "It was only after they were at the police office that the British Vice-Consul declared them to be officers of the British navy, when they were immediately transferred from the civil prison to that of the police corps, where they made but a short stay, and were released as soon as the sub-delegate placed them at the disposal of the chief of police, stating to him the cause of their imprisonment.

18. "Mr. Christie makes the observation that the officers deny their having sticks with them, saying that Mr. Clemenger alone had an umbrella in his hand; whilst in the official despatch addressed to Mr. Christie himself on the 24th of June last, Admiral Warren says that the soldiers took from the officers their umbrellas and sticks.

19. "In their refutation of the commandant's deposition, the officers said that not one of them carried a metal flask slung with a leather strap over the shoulder, but that Mr. Clemenger had one. It is exactly what the commandant said, with the addition that the flask contained the remains of liquor, whilst the officers said that it was empty.

20. "The officers further say that they did not skirmish with the Brazilian soldiers, because they do not speak Portuguese. Mr. Christie will, however, grant that it was not on this account that the officers would cease to deride them; as well as, that notwithstanding their ignorance of the language of the country, they themselves declare having given the commandant to understand

Mr. Christie's Reply.

motives, it may be suggested as not improbable in Brazil, that the officer and his guard disregarded the English officers' protestations, hoping to get money from them, and have afterwards denied the declarations which they did not choose to attend to. The Brazilian ensign admits in his evidence that the officers wrote a letter to the English Consul, which he did not forward. They say they wrote to the Consul and to Captain Saumarez. This writing does not show the desire suggested in the memorandum for the officers of concealing the trouble they had got into from their authorities. On the other hand, the detention of the letters by the Brazilian ensign has a very suspicious appearance.

17. It is not true that the officers were transferred to the "Corpo Policial" immediately after the Consul's visit. Mr. Holcombe went to the office a little after 11 A.M., and the officers were not removed to the "Corpo Policial" till between three and four in the afternoon. Nor is it true that they were kept in the "Corpo Policial" only a short time; they remained there the whole night, and were only set at liberty shortly before noon the next day. It is said later, most incorrectly, that, "as soon as their profession was known, they were immediately released." According to the memorandum itself, the British Consul declared their profession when he went to the police office, which was in the forenoon of the 18th, and the officers were not set at liberty till near noon the day following.

18. This remark, which was originally intended to show a contradiction between the officer's statements and the Admiral's, has, by the correction of a mistake which I pointed out, become unmeaning and objectless; and the Marquis of Abrantes would have done well to omit the paragraph. As the passage originally stood, the officers were represented as denying that they had sticks. I showed the Marquis that they only denied having used them, and that it was only said of Mr. Clemenger, the chaplain, that he had no stick, but simply an umbrella. All contradiction, therefore, with the Admiral's statement that the officers' sticks were taken from them is at an end.

19. This is an unsuccessful attempt to show a contradiction. What the officers say is, that none of them carried a flask slung over the shoulder, but that Mr. Clemenger carried one in his pocket. There is no contradiction in this.

20. It must be admitted that the officers might have attempted to make fun of the Brazilian guard with their small stock of Spanish, by which they tried to convey a threat; but the threat they probably regarded as more urgent than ridicule; and jokes, to be effective, must be well expressed.

Brazilian Memorandum.

understand that they would ere long call him to account for his behaviour.

21. "The officers deny everything besides that the witnesses said against them. But Mr. Christie will have the goodness to consider that the denials of interested parties cannot be admitted as proofs in a court of justice, nor neutralise the depositions of witnesses who are impartial, in adding that the allegations of the officers do not appear to be very probable.

22. "The complaint would be held reasonable if, from the dress, or any other declaration, it were known that the said officers belonged to the British navy; but, quite on the contrary, it appears that they were dressed in plain clothes, and that they made no declaration. It finally appears that as soon as their quality was known they were immediately released, there being otherwise no matter for addressing a communication to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation on this subject.

"The Imperial Government, from the foregoing explanation, does not doubt that Mr. Christie, impartially appreciating this frank and loyal statement, will deem it convenient to reconsider the subject of the present claim.

"27 December 1862."

Mr. Christie's Reply.

21. The accused Brazilians are much more interested in defending themselves than could be the accusers in complaining, and there is only one extraneous witness, Müller.

22. Persons in plain clothes are not to be assaulted and then arrested without cause; though in plain clothes, they did not cease to be officers. It cannot be considered proved that they refused to give their names and profession; and even admitting that these were not made known till Mr. Acting Consul Hollocombe went to the police office in the forenoon of the 18th (and the Memorandum admits that they were then made known), it is not true that the officers were even then immediately released. They were detained nearly 24 hours afterwards.

(signed) *W. D. Christie.*
18 January 1863.

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BRAZIL.

DESPATCH

FROM

LORD HOWARD DE WALDEN

TRANSMITTING THE

DECISION OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF
THE BELGIANS

IN THE CASE OF THE

OFFICERS OF THE "FORTE."

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

Despatch from Lord Howard de Walden, transmitting the Decision of His Majesty the King of the Belgians in the Case of the Officers of the "Forte."

Lord Howard de Walden to Earl Russell.—(Received June 24.)

My Lord,

Brussels, June 22, 1863.

I HAD the honour of receiving yesterday from the hands of the King the accompanying portfolio, containing the text of the decision of His Majesty as arbitrator in the case of the officers of Her Majesty's ship "Forte" and the Brazilian Agents.

I expressed to the King on behalf of Her Majesty's Government their sense of His Majesty's gracious and friendly act in having accepted the part of arbitrator in this painful and troublesome affair.

The King restricts his judgment to the character or spirit of the proceeding of the Brazilian Agents, whether, in a national point of view in regard to the British navy, it was to be deemed offensive or not, and on this His Majesty decides in the negative.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HOWARD DE WALDEN AND SEAFORD.

Inclosure.

Decision of His Majesty the King of the Belgians.

NOUS, Léopold, Roi des Belges, ayant accepté les fonctions d'arbitre qui nous ont été conférés de commun accord par la Grande Bretagne et par le Brésil, dans le différend qui s'est élevé entre ces Etats au sujet de l'arrestation, le 17 Juin, 1862, par le poste de la police Brésilienne situé à la Tijuca, de trois officiers de la Marine Britannique, et des incidents qui se sont produits à la suite et à l'occasion de cette arrestation ;

Animé du désir sincère de répondre par une décision scrupuleuse et impartiale à la confiance que les dits Etats nous ont témoignée ;

Ayant à cet effet dûment examiné et mûrement pesé tous les documents qui ont été produits de part et d'autre :

Voulant, pour remplir le mandat que nous avons accepté, porter à la connaissance des Hautes Parties intéressées le résultat de notre examen, ainsi que notre décision arbitrale sur la question qui nous a été soumise dans les termes suivants, à savoir :—

Si dans la manière dont les lois Brésiliennes ont été appliquées aux officiers Anglais il y a eu offense envers la Marine Britannique ;

Considérant qu'il n'est nullement démontré que l'origine du conflit soit le fait des Agents Brésiliens, qui ne pouvaient raisonnablement pas avoir de motifs de provocation ;

Considérant que les officiers lors de leur arrestation n'étaient pas revêtus des insignes de leur grade, et que dans un port fréquenté par tant d'étrangers ils ne pouvaient prétendre à être crus sur parole lorsqu'ils se déclaraient appartenir à la Marine Britannique, tandis qu'aucun indice apparent de cette qualité ne venait à l'appui de leur déclaration ; que, par conséquent, une fois arrêtés ils devaient se soumettre aux lois et règlements existants et ne pouvaient être admis à exiger un traitement différent de celui qui eût été appliqué dans les mêmes conditions à toutes autres personnes ;

Considérant que, s'il est impossible de méconnaître que les incidents qui se sont produits ont été des plus désagréables aux officiers Anglais et que le traitement auquel ils ont été exposés a dû leur paraître fort dur, il est constant toutefois que, lorsque par la déclaration du Vice-Consul Anglais la position sociale de ces officiers eut été dûment constatée, des mesures ont aussitôt été prises pour leur assurer des égards particuliers, et qu'ensuite leur mise en liberté pure et simple a été ordonnée ;

Considérant que le fonctionnaire qui les a fait relâcher a prescrit leur élargissement

aussitôt que cela lui a été possible, et qu'en agissant ainsi il a été mû par le désir d'épargner à ces officiers les conséquences fâcheuses qui aux termes des lois devaient forcément résulter pour eux d'une suite quelconque donnée à l'affaire ;

Considérant que, dans son rapport du 6 Juillet, 1862, le Préfet de Police n'avait pas seulement à faire la narration des faits, mais qu'il devait rendre compte à l'autorité supérieure de sa conduite et des motifs qui l'avaient porté à user de ménagements ;

Considérant qu'il était, dès lors, légitimement et sans qu'on puisse y voir aucune intention malveillante, autorisé à s'exprimer comme il l'a fait ;—

Nous sommes d'avis que, dans la manière dont les lois Brésiliennes ont été appliquées aux officiers Anglais, il n'y a eu ni préméditation d'offense, ni offense, envers la marine Britannique.

Fait et donnée en double expédition, sous notre Sceau Royal, au Chateau de Lachen, le dix-huitième jour du mois de Juin, 1863.

(Signé)

LEOPOLD I.

(Translation.)

WE, Leopold, King of the Belgians, having accepted the functions of Arbiter, which have been conferred upon us by common consent by Great Britain and by Brazil, in the differences which have arisen between these States, in the matter of the arrest, on the 17th of June, 1862, by the guard of Brazilian police posted at Tijuca, of three officers of the British Navy, and of the circumstances which resulted after and at the time of that arrest ;

Animated by a sincere desire to respond by a scrupulous and impartial decision to the confidence which the said States have shown towards us ;

Having to this end duly examined and maturely weighed all the papers that have been produced by one side and by the other ;

Wishing, in order to fulfil the task which we have accepted, to bring to the knowledge of the High Parties interested the result of our examination, as well as our decision in the capacity of Arbiter upon the question which has been submitted to us in the following terms, namely :—

Whether, in the mode in which the laws of Brazil have been applied towards the English officers there has been offence to the British Navy ;

Considering that it is in no way shown that the origin of the conflict was the act of the Brazilian agents, who could not reasonably have had motives for provocation ;

Considering that the officers, at the time of their arrest, did not wear the uniform of their rank, and that in a port frequented by so many foreigners they could not expect to be believed on their mere word when they declared that they belonged to the British Navy, while there was no outward sign of their rank to support their declaration ; that consequently, once arrested, they ought to have submitted to the existing laws and regulations, and had no right to require any treatment different to that which would have been applied, in similar circumstances, to all other persons ;

Considering that, although it is impossible to deny that the incidents which ensued were most unpleasant to the English officers, and that the treatment to which they were exposed must have appeared to them most harsh, it is nevertheless proved that, when by the declaration of the English Vice-Consul, the social position of these officers had been duly established, measures were at once taken to secure them special consideration, and that their unconditional liberation was then ordered ;

Considering that the functionary who caused them to be released ordered their release as soon as he possibly could, and that in acting thus he was prompted by the desire to spare these officers the disagreeable consequences which, in conformity with the laws, must necessarily have been entailed upon them from any further steps taken in the matter ;

Considering that, in his Report of the 6th of July, 1862, the Prefect of Police had not only to make a statement of facts, but was also obliged to render to his superior authority an account of his conduct, and of the reasons that induced him to treat them with consideration ;

Considering that he was, from that time, properly, and without any malicious intention being fairly attributable to him, authorized to express himself as he did ;—

We are of opinion that, in the mode in which the laws of Brazil have been applied towards the English officers, there was neither premeditation of offence, nor offence, to the British Navy.

Done and given in duplicate, under our Royal Seal, at the Palace of Lachen, the 18th day of June, 1863.

(Signed)

LEOPOLD I.

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CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING

LIBERATED SLAVES

IN

B R A Z I L.

Presented to the House of Commons by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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Correspondence respecting Liberated Slaves in Brazil.

No. 1.

Earl Russell to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 8, 1863.

WITH reference to your despatch* of the 24th of November last, inclosing a copy of the regulations issued by the Brazilian authorities for the government of the free Africans at the naval establishment of Itapura, I have to instruct you to take such measures as you may deem best calculated for ascertaining whether among the Africans in that establishment there are any who were liberated through the late British and Brazilian Mixed Commission Court.

Should there be any negroes in this category you will state that Her Majesty's Government are bound to see that faith is kept with them, and you are consequently instructed to claim from the Brazilian Government their unconditional freedom.

The effect of the regulations recently issued for the government of the negroes at Itapura is practically to consign to six years' forced servitude men, women, and children who are free according to the showing of the Brazilian authorities themselves, and the Government of Her Majesty are consequently bound to require that those Africans who were liberated under British auspices shall not be subjected to the regulations in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 2.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received April 6.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, February 26, 1863.

ON the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 8th January last, having no doubt of the fact that among the Africans at Itapura are free Africans liberated by the Anglo-Brazilian Mixed Commission of Rio de Janeiro, I have thought it best to address to the Marquis of Abrantes the note of which I inclose a copy. The attention of the Brazilian Government is, I have reason to believe, seriously turned to this subject of the free Africans.

Itapura is very distant from Rio, and is most easily arrived at by a circuitous voyage to the River Plate and up the Rivers Paraná and Paraguay, and through Mattogrosso.

Inclosure in No. 2.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Petropolis, February 12, 1863.

HER Majesty's Government have carefully considered the Regulations published by the Minister of Public Works under date of the 5th November, 1862, for the free Africans employed in the naval establishment at Itapura.

Her Majesty's Government are yet without accurate information as to the number of free Africans employed at Itapura who were liberated by the British and Brazilian Mixed Commission Court.

* See Slave Trade Papers, Class B, presented to Parliament this Session, No. 97.

I have again to call your Excellency's attention to the following notes addressed by me to your predecessors, referring to free Africans at Itapura: December 19, 1860, to Senhor Sinimbú; December 28, 1860, to Senhor Sinimbú; January 10, 1861, to Senhor Sinimbú; June 3, 1861, to Señor Sá e Albuquerque.

I abstain from mentioning unanswered notes of mine asking for general information about free Africans, which of course include those employed at Itapura.

Her Majesty's Government instruct me to say that, with respect to Africans liberated by the late Mixed Commission Court at Rio de Janeiro, they are bound to see that the Brazilian Government keep faith with them; and I am instructed to claim for all such Africans unconditional freedom.

Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that the effect of the new Regulations for the government of negroes in the Itapura establishment is, practically to consign to forced servitude for six years men, women, and children who are free according to the showing of the Brazilian authorities themselves; and Her Majesty's Government consequently feel themselves bound to require that these Africans, who were liberated under British auspices, shall not be subjected to the regulations in question.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 3.

Mr. Christie to Earl Russell.—(Received April 6.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, March 5, 1863.

WITH reference to my preceding despatch of February 26, I inclose a copy and translation of a note which I have received from the Marquis of Abrantes on the subject of the new regulations of the naval establishment of Itapura, the application of which to free Africans liberated under British auspices I protested against under your Lordship's instructions: and I also inclose a copy of a further note which I have addressed to the Marquis of Abrantes in rejoinder.

I have made no remarks in my reply on the explanations offered as to the Regulations, which I leave entirely to your Lordship's judgment. But I thought it well to point out to the Marquis, in reply to his remarks on the danger of wholesale sudden emancipation, that had the Imperial Government done their duty, and attended to the representations of successive British Ministers, all might by this time have been made free by gradual measures, and that the object of the fourteen years' apprenticeship which all have now served was to prepare for full freedom.

Your Lordship will observe that on this occasion I have received a sufficiently prompt answer. Since the reprisals the Marquis of Abrantes has become very prompt in answering.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

The Marquis of Abrantes to Mr. Christie.

Ministerio dos Negocios Estrangeiros,

Rio de Janeiro, 28 de Fevereiro de 1863.

POR sua nota datada de 12 do corrente, o Senhor William Dougal Christie, &c., &c., chama a minha attenção sobre varias notas que dirigio aos meus antecessores acerca dos Africanos livres, empregados no estabelecimento naval do Itapura, e especialmente sobre as instrucções expedidas em 6 de Novembro do anno proximo findo, pelo Ministerio d'Agricultura, Commercio, e Obras Publicas para a administração dos ditos empregados n'aquelle estabelecimento.

Na mesma nota declara o Senhor Christie que teve ordem do seu Governo para reclamar uma liberdade sem condição em favor dos Africanos libertados pela ultima Commissão Mixta.

Em resposta a esta nota passo a transmittir ao Senhor Christie as informações que recebi do Senhor Ministro d'Agricultura acerca des referidas instrucções.

Antes d'isso, porein cumprir me assegurar ao Senhor Christie que o Governo Imperial cuida com todo o empenho e sollicitude da questão dos Africanos livres, e sobre ella está

colhendo todas as necessarias informações para proceder com o acerto e prudencia que o caso requer ; não podendo escapar a perspicacia do Senhor Christie os graves inconvenientes e perigos que poderiam resultar de lançar de chofre na população, entregues a si proprios e sem cautelas, um numero avultado de individuos baldos de educação e d'experiencia para se dirigirem.

Das informações aqui acima referi-me, resulta que, pelas instrucções de 6 Novembro, se teve em vista garantir a existencia futura dos Africanos livres do estabelecimento do Itapura, e habilitar-os a serem cidadãos uteis, morigerados, e com os habitos civilisadores do trabalho ; sendo elles para esse fim submettidos á disciplina militar, e equipados aos colonos militares de terceira classe, existentes no mesmo estabelecimento.

Por isso tambem deu se lhes vantagens pecuniarias e o direito a um lote de terras, depois de seis annos de bons serviços, tempo este por que são obrigados a servir não só as praças de pret voluntarios do exercito, como mesmo os medicos e pharmaceuticos do Corpo de Saude.

Na posição assim feita a esses individuos, posição em que elles encontram meios de subsistencia e vantagens de colonos militares, entendo o Governo Imperial que crão conciliados os interesses d'esses mesmos individuos, com as garantias necessarias á sociedade, onde elles vivem, contra os perigos de que estaria ameaçada se fossem elles abandonados á sua propria discrição.

As instrucções reconhecem o direito pleno e absoluto que tem esses Africanos á sua liberdade e reconhecem designando-os pelo nome de Africanos livres ; declarando, no Artigo 8, que tem direito á carta de emancipação, e mandando, além da etapa e da vestimenta, que lhes é dada, gratificar o seu trabalho.

E se, além do tempo por que elles tem de servir, em compensação das vantagens que lhes são feitas, se exigir provas de bons serviços e de regular comportamento, para a entrega da sua carta de liberdade, n'isto seguiu-se o principio que prevalece tambem no exercito, quando se pune as praças que commettem infracções dos regulamentos militares, com a perda do tempo de serviço que anteriormente contavão.

N'este ponto as instrucções estão de accordo com os principios geraes da legislação militar.

Convem ainda notar que os regulamentos dos Presidios e Colonias Militares do Imperio contem disposições semelhantes ás das instrucções.

São estes os esclarecimentos que me cumpre levar ao conhecimento do Senhor Christie, e que me parecem sufficientes para mostrar que os individuos de que se trata não ficarão por aquellas instrucções sujeitos a una escravidão forçada.

Renovo, &c.

(Assignado)

MARQUEZ D'ABRANTES.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, February 28, 1863.

MR. WILLIAM DOUGAL CHRISTIE, &c., in his note of the 12th instant, calls my attention to various notes which he addressed to my predecessors on the subject of free Africans employed in the naval establishment of Itapura, and particularly respecting the instructions sent on the 6th of November last, by the Ministry of Agriculture, Commerce and Public Works, for the administration of the said Africans employed in that establishment.

In the same note Mr. Christie declares that he has been instructed by his Government to claim unconditional liberty in favour of the Africans who were freed by the last Mixed Commission.

In reply to this note, I now transmit to Mr. Christie the information which I received from the Ministry of Agriculture relative to the said instructions.

Before doing so, however, I have to assure Mr. Christie that the Imperial Government, with the greatest earnestness and solicitude, studies the question of the free Africans, and is collecting all the necessary information in order to proceed with all such discretion and prudence as the case requires. It cannot escape the perspicuity of Mr. Christie that serious inconvenience and dangers might result from letting loose at once among the population, without certain precautions, a large number of uneducated individuals, and without experience to guide them.

From the information above referred to, the result is, that the Instructions of the 6th of November had in view the guaranteeing of the future existence of the free Africans of the establishment of Itapura, and of enabling them to become useful and obedient citizens, habitually prone to work, they being to that end subjected to military discipline, and made equal to the military colonists of the third class existing in that same establishment.

For that reason pecuniary advantages were granted them, and the right to a portion of land, after six years of good services, this being the term in which not only the soldiers, volunteers from the army, and even the medical men and apothecaries of the Body of Health, are obliged to serve.

In the position thus prepared for those individuals, and in which they meet with the means of subsistence and the advantages of military colonists, the Imperial Government judged that the interests of those same individuals were reconciled with the necessary guarantees in favour of the society in which they live, against the dangers with which it would be menaced if they were to have been abandoned to their own discretion.

The instructions recognize the full and absolute right of those Africans to their liberty, and they recognize it in designating them as free Africans, declaring, in the 8th Article, that they have a right to the letter of emancipation, and ordering that, besides rations and clothes, which are furnished them, they are to be paid for their work.

And if, besides the time during which they have to serve in compensation of the advantages conferred upon them, proofs of good services and good behaviour are exacted for the delivery of their letter of freedom, the principle is only observed which prevails also in the army, when soldiers are punished for infractions of the Military Regulations, with the loss of time of their previous services.

On this point the instructions agree with the general principles of the military legislation.

It is proper still to note that the regulations of the garrisons and military colonies of the empire contain the same provisions as the instructions.

These are the elucidations which it behoves me to bring to the knowledge of Mr. Christie, and which appear to be sufficient to show that the individuals in question do not remain, by those instructions, subject to forced slavery.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) MARQUIS OF ABRANTES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

Mr. Christie to the Marquis of Abrantes.

M. le Marquis,

Petropolis, March 4, 1863.

I HAVE received your Excellency's note of the 28th ultimo, giving explanations in reply to mine of the 12th, as to the regulations which free Africans have been lately subjected in the naval establishment of Itapura.

I shall lose no time in forwarding a copy of your note to Earl Russell, and Her Majesty's Government will judge whether these explanations suffice to show that the condition of the free African under the regulations in question is not one of forced servitude.

I restrict myself to remarks on some general propositions of your Excellency.

You say that the Imperial Government are attending to the question of the free Africans, and are collecting all the necessary information in order to act with the judgment and prudence required; but you do not say that they have been collecting information in order to communicate it to Her Majesty's Government in compliance with the particular request which I addressed to Senhor Paranhos on the 18th of March, 1861, that is, two years ago.

You speak of the inconveniences which may follow from a general sudden emancipation of the free Africans who are without education and experience. Let me remind your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government have been urging this question on the Government of the Emperor from time to time, and in various ways, for the last thirteen years, and that similar language was held in 1856 to Mr. Scarlett by Senhor Paranhos, who at the same time declared that it was the intention of the Imperial Government to give all these free Africans their freedom. Had the interval been well employed in gradual emancipation, all might now be free. As it is, every free African who was liberated by the British and Brazilian Mixed Commission Court must have served more than fourteen years. And what was the object of this fourteen years' apprenticeship but to train them for the full enjoyment of freedom?

I can perfectly understand that the labour of these free Africans is cheap and serviceable to the Imperial Government at Itapura and elsewhere.

I take occasion to remind your Excellency that in 1860 and 1861, Senhor Sinimbú promised me on several occasions that no more free Africans should be sent to Itapura from Ypanema. Since then all my efforts to obtain particular information have been

fruitless. It will be satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government to be assured that no free Africans were sent to Itapura from Santos or Ypanema after July 1860.

I need not tell your Excellency that the journey to Itapura is long and toilsome, that the place is notoriously unhealthy, and that such a destination is not likely to be chosen by free men.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 4.

Mr. Eliot to Earl Russell.—(Received May 6.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 3, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation of an article which appeared in the "Diario" of Rio de Janeiro on the 2nd instant, showing the difficulties thrown in the way of the free Africans obtaining their liberty—difficulties which, as it appears, render it almost impossible for these unfortunate people to obtain that result unless powerfully protected.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. G. CORNWALLIS ELIOT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

Extract from the "Diario" of April 2, 1863.

(Translation.)

A NAME is a word by which things are expressed, according to Padre Antonio Pereira de Figueiredo and other simple-minded people of that age.

In Brazil, however, this rule has its exceptions—exceptions very ironical and satirical as regards our "free institutions," if such they be.

The law which prohibited the Traffic in human flesh, declared free all the Africans taken from that time, providing for the protection of the rights of these unhappy creatures, giving them Judges, Guardians-General, special and temporary, and Clerks; the special guardians are the private persons or public establishments to whose service the Africans were given over until they could be freed by law.

In the wretched condition in which the unhappy creatures live in Brazil, as well those delivered to private persons as to public establishments, it appears (unless satire and irony are legal) that the law ought to facilitate and protect, even directly and in all ways, the emancipation—the true liberty of the Africans, once that the time required for them to acquire moral capacity for self-government has elapsed.

However, let us see what facilities, what protection they meet for emancipating themselves, and how that emancipation is realized. The "free" African delivered to the service of a private person or of a public establishment does not cease to be practically a slave. Those who enjoy his services do not commit the folly of facilitating his emancipation, and, slave as he is *de facto*, he is unable to obtain the pecuniary means to pay advocates to occupy themselves about it.

It follows, then, that these wretched beings must resign themselves to the taunts of the law, or wait until chance procures for them a disinterested protector, and that, clothed with the most evangelical patience, they must prepare to suffer and follow the following proofs of this new moral inquisition:—

1. To ask from the Clerk of the Africans ("Escrivão") the positive attestation that the time has elapsed.
2. Petition the Imperial Government through the Minister of Justice.
3. The Minister of Justice refers to the Judge of Orphans.
4. The Judge of Orphans gives information and returns the petition to the Minister.
5. The Minister refers to the Chief of Police.
6. The Chief of Police refers to the General Guardian Curador.
7. The Guardian gives information and returns the petition to the Chief of Police.
8. The Chief of Police refers to the Director of the House of Correction.
9. The Director of the House of Correction gives information and sends back to the Chief of Police.
10. The Chief of Police gives the information, and sends back to the office of the Secretary of Justice.

11. The Secretary's office makes a *précis* of the information to be acted on by the Minister.

12. Finally, the Minister acts, ordering a letter of freedom to be issued.

13. The petition returns to the Judge of Orphans.

14. Notification of the decision is sent to the Chief of Police.

15. The Judge of Orphans refers the petition to the Clerk, and orders a letter of freedom to be given, but retains it in his possession until the party pays the respective emoluments.

16. The letter is made over to the Chief of Police.

17. The Chief of Police communicates with the Director of the House of Correction, ordering the African to appear.

18. The Director sends for him, and the Chief designates his place of residence.

19. The Chief of Police of the city of Rio de Janeiro ("Corté") communicates with the Provincial Chief of Police to whom the place designated belongs, and hands over the free African with the letter.

20. The Provincial Chief of Police hands over the wretched man and his letter to the police authority of the place approved by the Chief of Police of Rio de Janeiro as place of banishment for a free man condemned for no crime.

And after all this work and expense incurred with procurators and intermediaries, in order that the petition may not remain buried in the great ocean of our Departments, the wretched African succeeds in being banished from the place where he has lived ten, fifteen, or twenty years, in which he had taken root, where he had begun to found his future, his hopes.

This is Brazil in the year of grace 1863. This is not a censure on authorities or functionaries; it is an evil which is exclaimed against, and for which we claim the attention of the Imperial Government.

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FURTHER PAPERS

RELATING TO THE



REBELLION IN CHINA.

WITH AN APPENDIX.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

LONDON:
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Further Papers relating to the Rebellion in China.

No. 1.

Mr. Hammond to Consul Harvey.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June 16, 1862.*

WITH reference to your despatch to Mr. Bruce of the 20th of March,* in which you state that no attempt had been made by the Taeping authorities at Ningpo to organise any political or commercial institutions, I am directed by Earl Russell to call your attention to a statement which has been made in this country, that the Tae-ping authorities at Ningpo have established a regular Custom-house, and published a Customs Tariff; and I am to instruct you, if that is the case, to send to this Office a copy of such Tariff, and a report as to the manner in which the Custom-house is carried on, the amount of trade, and the mode in which the Tariff is enforced.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 2.

Earl Russell to Consul Medhurst.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June 26, 1862.*

I INCLOSE a copy of a letter to which Colonel Sykes has drawn my attention, as having been published in the "Overland Times of India," and which purports to contain an account by an eye-witness of atrocities perpetrated on Tae-ping prisoners by the Imperialists at Shanghae. This statement is at once so horrible and so revolting as to be almost incredible; but I have to instruct you to report to me immediately whether there is any foundation for it.

And you will also report to me whether any similar cruelties have been committed by the Chinese within the district of your Consulate.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 3.

Earl Russell to Consul Harvey.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June 26, 1862.*

I INCLOSE a copy of a letter to which Colonel Sykes has drawn my attention, as having been published in the "Overland Times of India," and which purports to contain an account by an eye-witness of atrocities perpetrated on Tae-ping prisoners by the Imperialists at Shanghae. This statement is at once so horrible and so revolting as to be almost incredible; but I have instructed Mr. Consul Medhurst to report to me immediately whether there is any foundation for it.

And you will also report to me whether any similar cruelties have been committed by the Chinese within the district of your Consulate.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

* See "Further Papers relating to the Rebellion in China," presented to Parliament May 27, 1862; Inclosure in No. 3.

No. 4.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received August 1.)

(Extract.)

Peking, May 4, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch from Mr. Consul Harvey giving an account of the defeat of the Tae-ping invaders by the population of Chusan, and a report and letter from the Rev. Mr. Roberts on the religious and political character of the Tae-ping movement.

The first document gives a faithful picture of the feelings with which the Chinese look upon the insurgents; the second contains the opinions, matured by a personal residence of fifteen months at Nanking, of a missionary who had every motive for taking the most favourable view possible of the cause, and whose previous communications contributed much to the false impressions that prevailed of the religious and political views of the head of this movement.

I repeat, my Lord, my conviction that any course of policy in China is based on a misapprehension of events, which does not admit, as axioms, that the progress of the insurrection is most disastrous to our interests, and that whether it overwhelms this Dynasty or not, it must be put down by some force, foreign or domestic, before industry and commerce can flourish in China.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

Consul Harvey to Mr. Bruce, April 14, 1862.

[See "Further Papers relating to the Rebellion in China," presented to Parliament in August 1862, Inclosure in No. 10.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 4.

Extract from the "China Mail" of April 10, 1862.

By the Rev. I. J. Roberts, from Nanking.

To the Editor of the "China Mail."

Sir,—IT has been my habit for many years at the end of each year to publish an Annual Report. From not having a press at Nanking, and other reasons, I have not published last year's Report yet; which I now propose doing through the "China Mail," with your leave. If I am aware of my own real motives in doing so at present, it is public utility. Nor would it tend to promote this end, either to make the people among whom I lived fifteen months and upwards appear better or worse than they really are. I simply want the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, fully known now; that those who desire to promote the spread of the gospel or commerce among the rising dynasty, the head-quarters of which is located at Nanking, may be the better able to make wise and judicious arrangements for this end. Though I did but little good apparently while there, although I tried, yet I am glad I went to test what might be done, and to bring away a true report of the real state of affairs there. There are a large number of people—perhaps millions—under the government of these "heavenly rulers," as they call themselves, over whom my bowels of compassion yearn that their souls may be saved; but how that work shall be accomplished must be left principally to the wise and judicious exertions of other missionaries. My own task is nearly finished; my effort has already extended far beyond the average years of Missionary labour in China; hence I must ere long resign the work to other hands, and leave my Report for their guidance in relation to Nanking and the benighted people in that vicinity.

Lest the communications I have already written since I left Nanking might be thought *ex parte*, from having written under the spur of the moment, and prompted by a personal insult,—allow me to remark that the following Annual Report was written thirteen days before that insult occurred, under the most favourable circumstances to take an impartial view of passing events. In fact, the Report is

too impartial and candid to be prudently published while still living among that people. While there, it was meet that I should speak of them as favourably as circumstances would permit, without straining the truth, leaving others to exhibit the shady side of their doings; and hence I must acknowledge that both mine and theirs, during the last twelve months, were both *ex parte* representations of that people, one on the shady, the other on the sunny side of the question—pretty much on the principle of special pleading. While there, a friend from Hong Kong wrote to me, complaining that he could not learn the true state of the case, notwithstanding the present opportunities! I told him simply to take my public communications on the sunny side, and compare them with the local editor's exhibitions on the shady side, and he would have pretty fair representations of the whole truth. But in vindication of what I wrote while there, allow me to say, it was truth, but not the whole truth. Hence the unflattering remarks I have heard since I left, as if a missionary was capable of prevarication! One gentleman remarked, "You will be believed now you have left them, but not before." Another on the other side, "I can't believe you have abandoned them, as your communications represent." Another rather betwixt, "I have sent your communication home, but told them not to publish it; it is so different from any thing you have written before!" These remarks remind me of the gentleman who was passing himself off for a Chinaman in Canton some years ago, and they asked him how it came he had blue eyes! "Oh!" he said, "I have lived so long among foreigners, that my eyes have assimilated to the colour of theirs." The above remarks would indicate that a missionary might live so long among the Chinese as to assimilate to their practice of lying! Not so! He may tell the truth, and nothing but the truth, and still not the whole truth: he is not upon his oath to tell the "whole truth."

We will now proceed, passing by the minutial, statistical part, and give the general remarks of the—

Annual Report for 1861.

Nanking, December 31, 1861.

As I have little to report, I will fill up my sheet by making some general and candid remarks, which I never expect to publish while living among this people. Whether they be published afterwards may be decided by circumstances.

The aspect of things here have two very different phases,—the one bright and promising, the other dark and unpromising; and unfortunately for me I had only anticipated the bright side; and hence have felt my disappointment the more in realizing the dark. The bright side consists chiefly in negatives, such as, no idolatry, no prostitution, no gambling, nor any kind of public immorality, allowed in the city. This might well be esteemed one grand step towards religious improvement, were there no positive counter evils to interdict or hinder the progress of such religious improvement. But when we come to the religious aspect of this revolution, together with other evils both political and civil, we have a very dark side, which has grieved my very heart exceedingly, and often inclines me to leave them; but then I pity the poor people, who have immortal souls, and are really the sufferers, and greatly to be pitied for time and eternity.

1. As to the religious opinions of Tien Wang, which he propagates with great zeal, I believe them in the main abominable in the sight of God. In fact, I believe he is crazy, especially in religious matters, nor do I believe him soundly rational about anything. And as to his religious practice, I believe it very similar to Mahommedan or Mormon-ism, and very little or none better as to saving souls. A new revelation, plurality of wives, and an unscriptural faith and course of practice, have been their characteristics, and so they are his; nor have I the most distant idea that such a formal, heretical, State religion is calculated to do any good in the way of saving souls, but much harm in deceiving them. If I am happy enough to meet Tien Wang or any of his followers in heaven, I shall be agreeably disappointed, unless the good Lord grants them improvement in faith and practice! Tien Wang holds his new revelation by the Eastern and Western King on a par with the Holy Scriptures, and even above them where they come in opposition; himself and son are on a par with God the Father and Jesus Christ; the four constituting one Lord, as a father and his children one family. Himself on a par with Jesus Christ, but neither altogether divine like the Father. His unconverted officers are his chaplains; and as to missionaries, he seems to have no use for them, other than to learn his dogmas and teach them to foreigners, that they may hear, believe, and obey, so as to regard and reverence himself as the universal King of the world. He

calls his son the young saviour of the world, and himself the real brother of Jesus Christ. As to the Holy Spirit, he seems to have left him out of his system of the Trinity, and to understand very little of his work in the conversion of men.

Their political system is about as poor as their theology. I do not believe they have any organized Government, nor do they know enough about Government to make one, in my opinion. The whole affair seems to consist in martial law, and that, too, runs very much in the line of killing men, from the highest to the lowest, by all in authority. I became perfectly disgusted by the sights of slaughter. On the way from Soo-chow to Nanking in 1860, I saw from fifteen to twenty dead men on the way by the road-side, some of whom had just been murdered, not by their enemies, but from among their own people.

That disgust was intensified after I arrived at Nanking, by the perishing captives I saw in the city during the ensuing winter. Boys from six to sixteen years old lying about in the streets daily, frozen or starved to death, who had been taken captive and brought here, and were turned out into the street without any person to protect or provide for them. I reported their case to Tien Wang, and he only made the matter worse by having them sent out of the city to starve and perish.

Then they still disgusted and grieved me farther by setting traps to catch men and slay them. One was a proclamation that short-haired men should not come into the city. Ere they were aware, from fourteen to eighteen were caught in this trap and slain; perhaps some of them had never heard of the proclamation! Another was, that trading men should go outside of the city to traffic. In this they caught twelve or fifteen and slew them; leaving, perhaps, their poor wives and children starving! A woman or two spoke somewhat complaining of their present hardship on account of Tien Wang's revolution, and these were murdered! And to cap the climax, the other day two of the writers in the rooms below where I stay, when writing documents to Tien Wang, made a mistake of one character each; and they were both condemned by Tien Wang himself to be murdered, without even a hearing, and in three days were beheaded! This proves to my mind that he is crazy; nor can I believe that any good will arise out of the rule of such a wicked despot.

He wanted me to come here, but it was not to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and convert men and women to God, but to take office, and preach his dogmas, and convert foreigners to himself. I would as lief convert them to Mormonism, or any other *ism* which I believe unscriptural, and, so far, from the devil. I believe that in their heart they feel a real opposition to the Gospel, but for policy's sake they grant it toleration; yet I believe they intend to prevent its realization, at least, in the city of Nanking.

Another thing which disgusts me exceedingly: the Western King's son has been pulling down houses—or some one for him in his name—right in the middle of the city, covering from six to ten acres of land, to build himself a palace or mansion, turning from fifty to a hundred families out of doors to shift for themselves this cold winter. And others of their Kings have practised something like the same, but perhaps not on quite so large a scale. This pride, arrogance, and cruelty are quite disgusting and hateful. True, these poor people had never bought these houses; but they had possession, and as much right to them as he had.

Under their martial law I can get nothing without their leave, not even food or fuel—build a house nor print books. Tien Wang has promised me a house to live in, but has never given it to me. Chung Wang has promised me money with which to build a house and chapel both; but, excepting a few hundred dollars, this has not been realised. Nor have I seen any promise of success in my missionary labours, or any prospect of other missionaries being allowed to join me in the work of the Lord at this place. And hence I am making up my mind to leave them unless the prospects brighten up considerably to what they are at present. I wish to do the will of the Lord, and have been waiting the last fifteen months to see the indications of that will. It is not for the sake of Tien Wang or his officers that I have staid thus long; it is out of pity to the common people, and in obedience to what I hoped was the will of the Lord. But that hope is now wavering, and unless confirmed and strengthened, I think I shall leave them in the course of 1862. May the Lord direct my steps!

I. J. R.

P.S. Canton, April 3, 1862.—The foregoing is almost a verbatim copy of the

report I wrote at Nanking when in high standing at court—entitled to a heavenly dukedom such as Hung Sow-chuen was capable of bestowing, to a crown, to an official seal, and to a duplicate wife or two, offered by Kan Wang himself, who was once an assistant preacher of the gospel! I suppose he thought consistency a jewel, and that it was as little as he could do to say, “Do as I have done!” Not only so, he went further, and in the exuberance of his liberality offered to sprinkle all the converts I should make among his people; and insisted on it as a privilege that he rather claimed, I presumed, under his kingly authority, until I ultimately told him that I would not sprinkle one of my converts for baptism if he would give me the city, and of course would not allow him to do so. A miserable apostate, polygamist, and murderer too, to wish to administer an ordinance held sacred by those who practise it: what a sacrilege! But as to that boy, I have since been told that he evinced indications of life after he was dragged out, by one who saw him. But I think it would have been less cruel in Kan Wang to have smoothly cut off his head than to send him out even half killed, destitute, and naked, to freeze and starve to death. Whether the boy was killed directly or not, I cannot esteem Kan Wang, and his elder brother, who prompted him to the wicked deed, less than murderers; and hence, in my judgment, they ought both to be treated as such! But this murder, or attempted murder, occurred thirteen days after I wrote the foregoing report, as above stated, and hence the report was not at all influenced by that, but was predicated upon principle and mature judgment.

The question now naturally enough arises, What can be done for China, and especially the rebel portion of China, for the best interest of commerce and the gospel? I must acknowledge that this is a difficult problem at present to solve. Darkness—darkness predominates. The way is hedged up on every side. But I know the Lord is able to bring light out of darkness, and to open a way through the sea when His people are ready and willing to walk in it. We must look to Him for wisdom to direct. But I must now acknowledge candidly that I see no promise favourable to either commerce or the gospel in leaving matters quietly in the hands of the rebels. I have advocated their cause until I have utterly despaired, and now gravitation turns the other way. I believe in my heart, however much I may be mistaken in judgment, that it would be for the interest of commerce and the gospel to break their power upon the sea-coast and the Yangtze River, and never allow them to hold any place within gunshot of a navigable stream. And then let missionaries pray and seek their opportunities. Tien Wang’s spell will then be broken, which is essential to the best interests of the gospel among his people.

I. J. R.

No. 5.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received August 1.)

My Lord,

Peking, May 6, 1862.

AS it is desirable that your Lordship should be made acquainted, as accurately as possible, with the tone adopted in Memorials respecting breaches of Treaty by foreigners, complained of by the Chinese, I inclose translation of the despatch of the Foreign Board, inclosing their Memorial to the Throne, on the correspondence with me, on a case of shipment of salt from a port not open by Treaty, and on my complaint of the conduct pursued by the Chinese Government, in allowing the shipment of pease and bean-cake, and their refusal to allow it to be landed at Canton.

I am glad to see, though I am accused of not dealing with these questions fairly, that my advice has produced some effect, and that the provincial authorities are enjoined to prohibit this clandestine trade, as the only means by which these abuses can be stopped.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 5.

The Board of Foreign Affairs to the Governor of the Two Kwang.

(Translation.)

January 19, 1862.

THE Board of Foreign Affairs have to communicate with his Excellency the Viceroy of the Two Kwang Provinces, with reference to a despatch which the Board recently addressed to the English Minister, on the subject of a breach of Treaty by English merchants, in proceeding to Wên-chow to trade, and carrying a cargo of salt. The Board desired (*lit.*, directed) the Minister to issue orders to the Consul to inflict the penalty established by Treaty, but in place of blaming the violation of the Treaty on the part of the merchants, the Minister turned round to blame the compliance of the Local Authorities in the irregularity.

The Board have further received a despatch from the said Minister, to the effect that English merchants, having exported pease from Têng-chow, the Canton Customs would not allow them to be landed, by which error pecuniary loss was entailed on the merchants in question; and desiring that compensation might be made to them.

The Board consider that although the Minister, it is true, seeks to effect imposition by statements artfully dressed up, yet, if the local officials did their duty in taking precautions, and acting in conformity with the Treaty, he would have no pretexts on which to base complaints, and on the 10th of January they presented a Memorial to the Throne, requesting that Imperial commands be laid upon all Vice-roys, Governors, and Generals commanding Manchoo garrisons, to issue stringent orders to their subordinates, energetically to prohibit and put down illicit traffic in violation of the Treaty. In reply, a Decree has been received, assenting to the proposal, and the Board have, therefore, to communicate, &c., &c., and annex hereto a copy of their Memorial.

Inclosure 2 in No. 5.

Memorial.

(Translation.)

YOUR Majesty's servants have received an official letter from the Inspector-General Hart, in which he states that in September last an English vessel arrived at Shanghae, with salt from Wên-chow, upon which the Superintendent of Customs wrote to the British Consul, accusing the parties interested of disobedience to the Treaty, and requesting the confiscation of both ship and cargo. The British Consul, however, rejoined that since the local officials at Wên-chow had allowed the vessel to take in a cargo, the Customs at Shanghae could not inflict punishment for the offence. The vessel left again for Wên-chow, and Mr. Hart requested that the matter might be laid before the English Minister.

Your servants find that in the XLVIIIth Article of the Treaty it is provided that any vessel unlawfully entering other ports in China than those declared open to trade, shall, with their cargo, be subject to confiscation; and further, that Supplementary Rule 3 includes salt in the list of goods, import and export trade in which is alike prohibited. Now, Wên-chow is not an open port, and salt is a contraband article of merchandize; yet, when English merchants had illegally betaken themselves to the one, and illegally trafficked in and transported the other, on discovery by the Customs at Shanghae the Consul exerted himself in every way to shield the delinquents, and was unable to act in obedience to the Treaty.

Upon this, your servants wrote to the English Minister, directing him at once to give instructions for the guidance of the Consul in question. To their surprise, the Minister shuffled disingenuously with borrowed pretexts,—did not blame the breach of Treaty on the part of the merchants, but turned round to blame the local officials for letting the irregularity take place.

That the Minister strains argument by means of statements dressed up for the purpose, is, indeed, thoroughly manifest; yet if the local officials at every seaport paid due attention to precautionary measures, the Minister would have no grounds on which to base complaints. Your servants, therefore, besides replying to the English Minister, and desiring him to issue stringent instructions to the merchants respecting action in obedience to the Treaty, think it their duty, likewise, to request your Majesty to lay injunctions upon the Governor of Che-keang to issue orders to the authorities at Wen-chow and other places, forbidding foreign vessels

to proceed, for purposes of trade, to non-Treaty ports, or to traffic in contraband merchandise, and to punish with the utmost severity any case that may be discovered of laxity, or of bribes received for connivance.

With reference to the ports of Telg-chow and New-chwang, the staple trade of the Chinese vessels consists in pulse and bean-cake; and by the Treaty the export of such merchandise by foreign traders is prohibited.

In August last, the English Minister besieged us with representations praying that the prohibition might be relaxed, but your servants opposed a decisive check. At the same time, however, entertaining a desire that (justice should be) complete on either side, they gave a communication allowing foreigners to ship pulse at New-chwang and Teng-chow by native vessels, on payment of the export duty, by which means the revenue would be protected, and both Chinese and foreign traders be benefited.

Subsequently the same Minister, in the discussions on the settlement of Regulations for the Yang-tze trade, stated clearly, in his despatch, that in the matter of pulse and bean-cake the special clause in the 5th Supplementary Rule should be adhered to; whereupon your servants wrote directing the authorities at all the ports to act accordingly. They have now received a despatch from the English Minister, stating that English merchants had exported peas from Teng-chow: but that the Customs at Canton would not allow them to be landed, by which error they entailed loss on the parties interested, and claiming compensation in the amount involved. Here, again, the Minister does not blame the merchants who violate the Treaty, but casts the blame on the local authorities at Teng-chow for suffering the illicit sale by Chinese of the merchandise in question. His statements are egregiously forced (unreasonable), and are a most decided attempt to seize a pretext for disingenuously shifting away the blame. Although your servants rebuke and rebut him with the rights of the case, yet it is still their duty to request that your Majesty will command the authorities of Shan-tung and Manchuria strictly to prevent traffic by foreign vessels in pulse and bean-cake. Should foreigners desire to purchase pulse they can charter, as heretofore stated to your Majesty, native vessels for its transport on payment of the proper duties. Thus foreign merchants will, perhaps, not venture to violate the prohibitions of contraband trade, and the English Minister not raise disputes on borrowed pretext.

No. 6.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received August 1.)

(Extract.)

Peking, May 8, 1862.

I HAD an interview yesterday with the Prince of Kung and the members of the Board of Foreign Affairs.

Having explained that Her Majesty's Government did not consider it advisable to employ any but naval forces in China, but that at the same time there was a disposition to aid in protecting the Treaty ports from destruction, I stated that such co-operation must be confined to places in which there was a reasonable prospect that it would be effectual. That the experience of Ningpo went to prove that no co-operation was possible with the description of force ordinarily employed to maintain order in Chinese cities, or with the common description of Chinese officials, and that though it was true that the capture of Ningpo was highly prejudicial to us, as it had put an end to all trade at that city, still, that the foreign Settlement, which is separated by the river from the town, had not been hitherto molested.

I, moreover, pointed out that no joint action was possible with the "Braves," and I referred to their proceedings at Hankow and Kiu-kiang, as presenting the singular anomaly of men in Imperial pay insulting and threatening foreigners at the very time when foreign troops are acting with the Imperial troops in defence of Shanghai. These "Braves" appeared to set aside the Imperial authority altogether, and their conduct was so lawless that it might end in the Admiral being obliged to take strong measures against them.

As the Prince fully admitted their indiscipline, and said that they were a great source of embarrassment, as if disbanded or unpaid they might turn rebels, I stated that I was quite aware of the evil, but that I had a remedy which would enable the

Government both to face the insurrection and dispense with these irregular levies, which were more dangerous to their friends than to their enemies. That the reports of the English officers proved that the Chinese were easy to discipline, that at Shanghai Ward's troops had fought well, but that his failure before an entrenched camp also showed that infantry, however good, without artillery, could not combat the insurrection; that the numerical strength of the insurgents was due to the plan they pursued of seizing a town and fortifying it, so that the Imperial troops could not retake it. That from this position they burnt the villages and ravaged the country, by which means they forced the people to join their ranks as the only escape from starvation.

From this I inferred that until the Government had an artillery which would render these positions untenable, there was no hope of suppressing the insurrection or of saving the country from ruin and desolation, and that the *sine quâ non* of any efforts, on our part, to defend both Chinese and foreigners at Treaty ports, was the taking immediate steps to organise forces of the description alluded to above; for that, where no such force existed, I could not call upon the Admiral to do more than endeavour to preserve the foreign Settlement from attack.

His Excellency Wên-siang remarked on this that Tsung Kwo-fan, the High Officer commanding in the centre of China, had expressed opinions similar to mine; that he had said it was necessary to obtain foreign arms, and to use foreign instruction, though not foreign troops; and that the population, though forced to join the rebels, were not rebel at heart, for as soon as the districts were abandoned by them, they returned to their former allegiance and avocations.

I observed that my opinions, as the Prince well knew, accorded entirely with those of Tsung Kwo-fan on both points. I had uniformly urged the Chinese Government to improve its military system, and not to look to the aid of foreign troops, for which purpose Her Majesty's Government would willingly facilitate their instruction. I recommended that they should obtain from Captain Cane, who has been drilling their artillery force at Tien-tsin, a statement of the organisation he would propose for that arm. That the best step would be to make him director of their foreign artillery, and to empower him to take, at Canton, Foo-chow, and Hankow, the necessary steps to form an artillery force capable of protecting those cities, and of acting in the field when required. I promised to apply for sanction to his temporary employment by the Chinese in that capacity, and also to obtain from Hong Kong the services of instructors for the corps to be formed at Canton. That at other places where there were ships of war, the officers and gunners would probably be able to assist in this respect.

I urged, with all possible earnestness, the necessity of acting without loss of time.

I further entered at some length on the necessity not only of carrying out the Treaty faithfully, but of impressing on the provincial authorities the duty of acting towards foreigners in a friendly and not a grudging spirit.

The Prince approved, and promised to adopt my suggestions. If he can be brought to enter boldly into this path, I think, with the assistance of the gun-boats they have ordered, there is some hope of the commencement of a better order of things in China; for it is clear from the reports of Sir James Hope that the insurrection must either succumb before a properly-equipped force, or that it also must become an organised body, with regular troops, in which case its leaders must change the character of their proceedings, and seek to husband the resources of the country, instead of destroying the towns and laying waste the districts they occupy. This would be a great gain to the industrious population, and would enable us to preserve a strictly neutral character, without greater loss than trade must suffer where the country is the theatre of civil war.

The great interests of humanity involved in the fate of this enormous population, living in a highly artificial social state, coincide with the dictates of our interests, as a nation trading largely with China. These interests require, imperatively, the restoration of tranquillity, and I am convinced that the result will not be permanently obtained by the apparent triumph even of the Government, unless it is accompanied by such an improvement in their military force as will enable them to bring to bear on the elements of insurrection, to be largely found in China, those appliances which make mobs helpless against small, but well-organized and well-equipped, bodies.

I will not weary your Lordship by recapitulating my reasons for believing that the overthrow of the Government by the insurgents, as at present constituted, will

be the commencement of a state of anarchy and disorganization, by the side of which the condition of China, during the last ten years, will appear to have been one of prosperity and peace. Its unity as an Empire will disappear, and the disjointed members will turn to foreign protection for the tranquillity which they will look for in vain among contending native factions. A Government formed of men of Kwang-tung and Kwang-si will be submitted to, as a foreign yoke, by other parts of China, and will only be upheld by the most stringent tyranny.

Inclosure in No. 6.

Mr. Bruce to Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope.

(Extract.)

Peking, May 6, 1862.

I THINK that the reasons against a renewal of our attempts to negotiate at Nanking are of great weight.

Should we negotiate, it must be simply with the view of insuring the ports from attack or molestation. For, if we are to admit that the Tae-pings are justified in demanding that they are to be made *bonâ fide* neutral places, it would follow that the Chinese Government should be deprived of the revenue they derive from them. Otherwise, if the ports are only to be neutral in this sense, that they are not to be attacked, and that the Imperialists are not to make them the base of operations, but that the latter may continue to use the resources to be derived from the possession of these towns in carrying on operations at other points, it is clear that they would be gainers by the arrangement, and that we should be open to the charge of unfairness in proposing, under the mask of neutrality, an arrangement decidedly advantageous to one party.

On the other hand, the Imperialists would certainly not consent to losing the revenue they derive from Shanghae, and would prefer incurring the risk of the town being taken by the Tae-pings to giving it up to us. There is no Statesman in China who would take upon himself the responsibility of submitting such a proposal to the Throne. The risk to the individual would be greater than Chinese patriotism would venture to face.

As a general rule, experience shows us that in the eyes of the Chinese negotiation is a sign of weakness. The pretensions of the Tae-pings are more extravagant than those of the Imperial Government, their Head issues declarations of the divine will to natives and foreigners, and the subordinate Chiefs publish decrees inviting obedience to this divinely constituted Power. But as yet there is no evidence of a recognition of the Treaty rights of foreigners, or of a wish to conciliate their friendship by respecting and considering their interests.

The only hope of effecting anything at Nanking would be, if the events at Shanghae produce an impression on the minds of the Tae-pings that we shall make common cause with the Imperialists against them, unless they satisfy us that they will respect the ports. Should the vigorous proceedings at Shanghae convince them that we will not submit tamely to molestation, it appears to me possible that they may think it expedient to give us such assurances as we require. You are far more able to judge at Shanghae whether such an impression has been produced than I am at Peking. Looking, however, to the instructions of Her Majesty's Government, which contemplate no further action in China than that of a naval force, it is clear that no chance of effecting such an arrangement as that described ought to be neglected.

No. 7.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received August 1.)

(Extract.)

Peking, May 13, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch received from Mr. Gingell, who is Acting French Consul at Hankow, on the violent acts sanctioned, if not ordered, by the local authorities in Hoonan and Kwei-chow, against the Roman Catholic missionaries.

Your Lordship will see that the obstacles to a more liberal policy in China have by no means disappeared with the fall of Su-shuen and his colleagues. There

is still a large party wedded to the ancient traditions of China, and their influence is strong in the Provinces. The action of the Imperial Government is but feeble in remote districts, and the position of the Prince of Kung is necessarily the more critical on account of the minority of the Emperor.

It may be assumed that wherever there is a popular feeling against Treaty privileges, the Government is very much embarrassed how to deal with it; and I am inclined to believe, either that we must ourselves overcome it by force, or that the reorganization of the Chinese troops is a necessary preliminary to its dealing effectually with the subject, but it is not easy always to discover whether the opposition be of popular origin, or whether it be secretly fomented by the authorities.

As a general rule, the privileges which confer facilities for trading are not calculated to excite much popular feeling; but, in matters of religion, the opposition proceeds both from the authorities and rival religious bodies.

Chinese converts refuse to take part in, or to contribute to, national ceremonies of a religious character, and their priests, not unnaturally, seek to protect them against the injustice and cupidity of the native authorities.

Budhists and literati concur in disliking those who treat the sages of China and the popular superstitions with contempt; and the authorities cannot be expected to view with favour a system which in practice transfers the allegiance of the Chinese to foreigners. I have myself seen Chinese converts prostrate themselves before the priest, thus performing the act which is the symbol of vassalage.

Certainly, the great influx of Roman Catholic missionaries, consequent on the late Treaties, and, perhaps, increased pretensions on their part, seem to have provoked a considerable reaction—though, I hope, only a temporary one—against them, and will lead to serious complications unless both parties act with moderation.

The French Minister has, with considerably difficulty, obtained an Imperial Decree, reiterating the Treaty stipulations on the subject of religion, and enjoining their observance on the Provincial authorities.

The events detailed in Mr. Gingell's despatch took place previous to its issue. It remains to be seen how far it will be obeyed in the Provinces. It may do good, if the missionaries are at the same time discouraged from putting forward extravagant pretensions to be considered as holding official positions.

Inclosure in No. 7.

Consull Gingell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Hankow, April 22, 1862.

FATHER VIELMON, a Catholic missionary, arrived at Hankow on the 13th instant, bringing with him a letter from Bishop Fawrie, making known that Father Neel, a French subject, and four others, three male and one female, Chinese converts, had been beheaded at Kay-chow, Province of Kwae-chow, by order of Tae-luh-chi, a civil authority in February last, for no other reason than refusal to renounce their religion.

Father Neel held a passport, countersigned and sealed by the French Minister and the Prince of Kung, but this document was totally disregarded by the mandarin, who refused to recognize it as any other than a foreign paper, not in accordance with Chinese form and usage.

On the 18th instant Bishop Navarin arrived at Hankow, having been compelled to flee from Tseang-tan-heen, Hoonan Province, his church and other property having been totally destroyed by fire in the early part of the month, at the instigation of literati countenanced by the mandarins; indeed, an edict had been previously issued by the Judge of the Province, condemning to death all propagators of the Christian religion. I regret not to have been able to obtain a copy of the Proclamation.

Such a direct breach of French Treaty is of great moment. I am informed that in neither of the above-mentioned Provinces have the Treaties been promulgated, and that Prince Kung's kindly relations with foreigners are laughed at by a strong party, who are opposed to the amiable policy pursued by His Imperial Highness.

Bishop Navain also held a passport similar to the one furnished to Father Neel.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. R. GINGELL.

No. 8.

Consul Medhurst to Earl Russell.—(Received August 1:)

My Lord,

Shanghae, June 3, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, copies of despatches dated the 20th, 26th, and 30th ultimo, addressed by me to Mr. Bruce.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 1 in No. 8.

Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Shanghae, May 20, 1862.

MY despatch dated the 16th instant reported the progress that had been made in ejecting the Tae-pings from the districts and cities on the Poo-tung side of the Shanghae River. Since then the Tae-pings from Soo-chow, under Chung Wang, have made a sudden descent, in large force, on the country round about Kading. The Imperialist troops, which had been advanced as far as Tae-tsang after the recovery of Kading, were not able to stop the enemy in the slightest degree, but fled pell-mell past Kading to Woo-sung, which would have been taken but for the "Starling's" happening to reach it in time to repel the pursuing Tae-pings with her shot and shell. Kading, which is occupied by a few French and English troops, besides a force of Chinese, is consequently in danger, and a portion of the garrison left here has had to be drafted off to its assistance. The Admiral and General have also been apprised of the new turn affairs have taken.

I much fear that the Imperialists will never be able to maintain their own, even when put in possession of a circle of fortified posts round this place. As long as there are Tae-pings to attack them, so long will they flee at the very sight of the enemy, without making one effort to maintain the ground that has been recovered for them at the expense of so much time and trouble.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 2 in No. 8.

Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Shanghae, May 26, 1862.

THE Admiral and General, on receiving news of the advance of Chung Wang on Kading (as reported in my despatch dated the 20th instant), at once returned with the expeditionary force to Shanghae, leaving a few men in garrison at Nauziang. After their arrival here, the Tae-pings, who had pursued the Imperialists to Woo-sung, fell back on Loohun (a village between Woo-sung and Kading), and re-occupied Nauziang, where they succeeded in capturing a field-piece, with a quantity of ammunition and provisions that were being sent for the relief of Kading. On the 23rd, the expeditionary force left this again, *en-route* for Nauziang, where they were by the last news.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

P.S.—I have just been informed that the expeditionary force, including the Kading garrison, is ordered to fall back on Shanghae.

Inclosure 3 in No. 8.

Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Shanghae, May 26, 1862.

PREVIOUSLY to the departure of the expeditionary force to Kading (as reported in my previous despatch of this date), the Admiral and General, at my

suggestion, requested the Viceroy, as he is called, Le, to meet them at the Consulate, to enter into an agreement as to the conduct of future operations against the Tae-pings, and thus bring about a distinct understanding with that functionary as to the amount of co-operation he was prepared to give.

The Viceroy came accordingly, and a Minute was signed by him and the Admiral and General conjointly, by which it was agreed:—1st. That the Viceroy should move 3,000 men into Nauziang, and that our troops there should refrain from molesting them. 2ndly. That the Viceroy should furnish 3,000 men to be drilled by our officers. 3rdly. That all munitions of war seized and confiscated should be held to order of Allied Commanders for distribution amongst Chinese troops appointed to garrison captured cities. 4thly. That no movement of forces on either side should be made without intimation to the other party. And 5thly. That each should keep the other supplied with any information gained in regard to the movement of Tae-pings.

This Minute has not been communicated to me officially, but as I acted as interpreter on the occasion, I do myself the honour to report the matter for your information.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 4 in No. 8.

Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce.

Sir, *Shanghai, May 30, 1862.*
IN my despatch dated the 26th instant I reported the departure of the expeditionary force from Shanghai with the intention of relieving Kading. On arrival at Nauziang they found themselves suddenly surrounded by a considerable force of Tae-pings, who, I have since heard, were crossing the country at the time with the intention of investing Tsing-poo, and the circumstance so convinced General Staveley of the imprudence of keeping any of his troops isolated in a city so distant as Kading, and the communication with which could be so easily cut off, that he determined on evacuating it at once. The garrison was accordingly ordered out, and the entire force returned to this place shortly after.

On the 28th the Allied Commanders-in-chief had an interview with the Footae Le to discuss future operations, when arrangements were made for contracting the circle of outposts, and concentrating the foreign forces closer upon Shanghai. The indispensable necessity of having a corps of Chinese placed at our disposal for drilling purposes was again pressed upon the Footae, and it was only after much discussion that he consented even to entertain the project, although it was one of the subjects of agreement at the interview reported in my despatch of the 26th instant.

What is now to be done I do not at all know, but I believe the force is to remain a few days inactive at Shanghai, unless the Tae-pings threaten the immediate neighbourhood. Meanwhile the Tae-pings have re-occupied Kading, and are once more harassing the country within the circuit of defence first proposed, and I fear the inhabitants are suffering from the over-confidence which had been induced by our previous operations in their favour.

The authorities are much disappointed by the evacuation of Kading, and scarcely know what to make of it. The civil and military officers who had been placed in charge positively refused to leave the city, and had to be taken prisoners and forced to come away with the foreign garrison. I begged the Viceroy not to punish them for desertion of their posts, but he says he must according to Chinese law denounce them to the Emperor, and leave the matter to his judgment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

P.S.—I inclose copy of a letter which I thought it right to address to the Taoutae in support of the drilling scheme recommended by the Commanders-in-chief.
W. H. M.

Inclosure 5 in No. 8.

Consul Medhurst to the Taoutae of Shanghai.

Sir,

Shanghai, May 29, 1862.

AT an interview which the Allied Commanders-in-chief yesterday had with the Footae, I being interpreter on the occasion, the Footae promised to consult you as to the possibility of organising a corps of 2,000 men, to be drilled and disciplined by foreign officers, their pay and rations to be provided by the local authorities. He will no doubt communicate with you on the subject to-day, and if so, I beg you will give your instant and energetic support to the scheme.

To yourself, who have had experience of the advantage to be derived by drilling men in the case of Colonel Ward's corps, and the artillery-coolies, it is scarcely necessary for me to urge the benefit and even necessity of such a measure under present circumstances. But the Footae does not give the idea that cordial reception which I should have thought it would have naturally received at his hand. What his hesitation arises from I do not know. The Commanders-in-chief took pains yesterday to explain away his doubts, but he did not entirely give them up, and it was only after long discussion that he consented to the hiring of new levies for drilling purposes. It remains with you therefore to use your influence and persuasion to induce the Footae to accept unreservedly the offers that the Commanders-in-chief have made.

It must be remembered that on the disciplining and drilling of the Chinese troops mainly depends at this moment the salvation of China. The soldiers once made effective, brigandage and rebellion may be quickly crushed. This the Peking Government no doubt appreciates, for they have sanctioned the drilling of a body of the best Chinese troops at Tien-tsin, and the experiment has been already attended with success.

I must, moreover, remind you that foreign troops cannot always be retained for the protection of Shanghai. The Allied Government have consented to their temporary employment here not so much for the purpose of occupying the port as of assisting the rightful authorities to place themselves in a position to give it that permanent and efficient protection which by Treaty they are bound to do. The following extract of a letter the Honourable Mr. Bruce has addressed me distinctly declares this. He says, "For whatever illusions people on the spot may indulge in, you may be sure that Her Majesty's Government will not consent to go on protecting Shanghai for ever, and some day we shall have to submit to the presence of the Tae-pings there, unless the Chinese Government is sufficiently strong to hold its own." The more entirely, therefore, that the Provincial Authorities place themselves and their troops at the discretion of the Allied Commanders-in-chief during the present pressure the sooner will the Commanders-in-chief be able to clear this vicinity of Tae-pings, and place the authorities in a position to hold the country when it is cleared.

I beg you will send a copy of this letter to the Footae, and I will submit one for the information of Her Majesty's Chief Superintendent of Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

No. 9.

Sir E. Lugard to Mr. Hammond.—(Received August 2.)

Sir,

War Office, August 2, 1862.

WITH reference to my letter of the 15th ultimo,* I am directed by the Secretary of State for War to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Russell, the accompanying copies of two further despatches from the officer commanding Her Majesty's troops, in continuation of his previous reports of the operations undertaken by the allied forces against the Tae-pings in the neighbourhood of Shanghai.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD LUGARD.

* See "Further Papers relating to the Rebellion in China," presented to Parliament August 1862, No. 26.

Inclosure 1 in No. 9.

Brigadier-General Staveley to Sir G. C. Lewis.

Sir,

Head-Quarters, Shanghai, May 31, 1862.

ON the 18th instant I did myself the honour to report to you briefly the capture of Najaor, a rebel stronghold on the south side of the Woo-sung River, and twenty miles distant from Shanghai. I have now to detail the particulars of the operation.

On the day after the capture of Tsing-poo, the force proceeded in small country-boats to Najaor, where it arrived on the 16th instant. This town was found to be strongly entrenched and stockaded, about two miles in circumference, with an outwork commanding it, and a creek which ran into the town. I decided upon shelling the defenders out of the outwork, and establishing a breaching battery on its reverse. Two French naval 30-pounders, six Armstrong guns, and four mortars were accordingly got into position, and opened fire at 5 o'clock on the evening of the 17th instant, and in an hour the outwork having been rendered untenable, a storming party of 250 men of the 31st Regiment, and the same number of French Chasseurs and Marines, advancing to take possession, dashed through it under a brisk fire of matchlocks and jingals, and finding a pathway through the stakes and planks over the ditches right up to the wall, took advantage thereof and got into the place by climbing through the embrasures or over the stockades.

It was during this advance that the French Naval Commander-in-chief, Admiral Protet, whose death I have already reported, was killed.

As it was of importance that this place should be held until the Chinese authorities should place a garrison in it, 200 British and 120 French troops were left there.

A return of casualties is appended.

On the 18th instant the force marched for Cho-lin, six miles from Najaor, the guns, provisions, and baggage being conveyed in country boats, it being found impracticable to make arrangements for their transport by land, owing to the numerous canals and very narrow bridges which intersected the line of march.

Cho-lin is a walled town, three miles in circumference, surrounded by a wet ditch, and situated about one mile from the sea.

On the morning of the 19th instant the garrison was observed to be engaged in destroying some houses distant about eighty yards from the walls, and close to a small entrenchment which was placed between these houses and the walls. As these buildings were of value to me for cover, I directed that they should be at once taken possession of, which was done by a company of the 67th Regiment, under cover of the fire of two British naval 32-pounders from the front, and an enfilading fire of two Armstrong guns from the right.

A creek running directly into the ditch under the walls, afforded means of passing boats along, and so establishing a bridge for the passage of the assaulting parties.

During the night of the 19th, two British naval 32-pounders, two French naval 30-pounders, six Armstrong guns, and five field-pieces, were placed in position; the Armstrongs on the right to enfilade the wall, and the other guns in front of our position for breaching purposes. At daylight on the 20th the guns opened fire, and at 6 A.M. two breaches having been made, a bridge was established, and the troops entered the place without opposition.

I forward a list of casualties.

On the evening of this day, and as we were preparing to advance on the next rebel town, news reached me from Shanghai that the Imperialist troops in the neighbourhood of Kading had advanced beyond that place and been completely cut up or taken prisoners by the rebels; that Kading itself, garrisoned temporarily by the allies, was invested; that the town of Woo-sung was threatened; and that the Chinese authorities had declared themselves unable to meet their engagements to place garrisons in the towns we might capture. Under these circumstances I decided upon returning to Shanghai, to re-open communication with Kading, where provisions and ammunition were running short.

On the 24th instant I left Shanghai with the force detailed in the accompanying statement, and arrived at Nai-zain, six miles from Kading, the same day, all the guns, ammunition, and provisions, owing to the impossibility of carrying them across narrow bridges over innumerable canals, being conveyed in boats in charge of the Royal Navy.

The day succeeding our arrival at Nai-zain, and while the boats were, in consequence of the lowness of the tide, unable to reach us, the rebels, who appeared in very great force, attacked us in the town, in front and flanks, continually during the day, and eventually in the evening made a movement round to our rear towards the boats. In all these attacks they were driven back with loss, the casualties on our side being but few, viz., one sepoy, 22nd Punjaub Native Infantry, killed, and four sepoys of the same corps wounded.

The night following these attacks one side of a street in Nai-zain (in which were housed a few gunners, Royal Artillery, and the Chinese Gun Lascar Company) fell down, killing nineteen and injuring seventy-five of the Chinese, and three men Royal Artillery; this accident is attributed to the coolies having made use of some of the timbers of the houses for firewood. It now appearing that the difficulties of transport were very great, that the boats (our sole means of conveyance) were constantly grounding in the shallow creeks, while the enemy continued to hover round us, rendering a lengthened line of boats more dangerous and difficult to protect; and taking into consideration the harassing nature of the service for the troops at the present season, together with the fact that the Chinese authorities had declared themselves unable to garrison the captured towns as they had engaged to do, and seeing that the occupation of Kading alone did not prevent the rebels from ravaging the country between it and Shanghae, I resolved upon withdrawing the garrison from that place, and accordingly sent a column of 500 men and four mountain-guns, under Lieutenant-Colonel Stanley, 5th Bombay Native Infantry, to Kading, with instructions to bring the garrison out and return to Nai-zain: this operation was performed without a casualty, the rebels retreating before the column as it advanced. On the 28th instant the force returned to Shanghae. The accompanying copy of a letter I have addressed to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking will show you that the Chinese authorities are scarcely able to make any effort whatever for their own defence, and that, with the force at my command, I feel, under present circumstances, unable to do more than protect the city of Shanghae itself.

The rebels are now in force, investing Tsing-poo and Soon-kong, and have marauding parties ten miles from Shanghae driving in the country people and burning their houses in every direction.

I apprehend, therefore, that the crops will remain ungathered, and that famine must be the consequence.

As Shanghae, if attacked, will, I consider, require all the available troops in this part of the country for its defence, I shall retain the whole of the troops leaving Tien-tsin until I receive your instructions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. STAVELEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 9.

RETURN of casualties of Field Force under the Command of Brigadier-General C. W. D. Staveley, C.B., during the Capture of Najaor, on the 17th May, 1862.

ENGLISH.

Her Majesty's 31st Regiment.—5 privates, severely wounded.
Royal Navy.—1 seaman, severely wounded.
Military Staff Department.—1 Staff clerk, severely wounded.

FRENCH.

L'Amiral Protet, commanding His Imperial Majesty's Naval Forces, killed.
2 Naval officers, severely wounded.
2 Marines, severely wounded.
5 Sailors, severely wounded.

Correct:

(Signed)

LOFTUS MANSERGH,
Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General.

Shanghae, May 31, 1862.

Inclosure 3 in No. 9.

RETURN of Casualties of Field Force under the Command of Brigadier-General C. W. D. Staveley, C.B., during the Capture of Cho-lin, on the 20th May, 1862.

31st Regiment.—2 serjeants, slightly wounded.

67th Regiment.—1 private (James Allen), killed; 2 privates, severely wounded.

Correct:

(Signed)

LOFTUS MANSERGH,

Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General

Shanghai, May 31, 1862.

Inclosure 4 in No. 9.

STATE of the Field Force that left Shanghai on the Morning of the 24th May, 1862, under Brigadier-General C. W. D. Staveley, C.B.

Corps, &c.	Field Officers.	Captains.	Subalterns.	Other Officers.	Serjeants.	Drummers or Buglers.	Rank and File.	Guns.
Royal Artillery	1	1	2	1	7	1	127	4 Mortars.
Royal Engineers	..	1	1	..	2	..	14	4 Howitzers.
22nd Punjaub Native Infantry.	1	..	6	1	34	9	340	4 Armstrong.
31st Regiment	1	3	7	2	20	14	450	

Correct:

(Signed)

LOFTUS MANSERGH,

Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General.

Shanghai, May 31, 1862.

Inclosure 5 in No. 9.

Brigadier-General Staveley to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.)

Head-Quarters, Shanghai, May 30, 1862.

MY letter of the 26th instant will have informed you that I found it necessary to withdraw the garrison from Kading, for the reasons therein stated.

I have since had an interview with the Viceroy, and find that the Imperial troops which I found here on my arrival from the North have disappeared altogether, having either been taken prisoners or destroyed by the rebels, and that the whole number of troops at his disposal are 4,500, brought by steamers last month from Nganking, and these without a single musket among them.

He further informed me that the rebels are fast clearing out of the Poo-tung side of the Woo-sung River, and that the inhabitants of all the towns on that side had sent in their allegiance.

That the rebels are, however, in considerable force on the line between the Soon-kong and Kading, burning the villages and destroying all around them.

I have now to inform you of the measures proposed under the circumstances.

You are aware that the town of Na-jaor, situated midway between the Woo-sung River and the sea on the Poo-tung side, is held by the allies, and that the walled town of Cho-lin was captured by them a short time since.

The Viceroy has engaged to place 1,000 of his troops in Nan-wei on the Poo-tung side, one of the towns which has recently sent in its allegiance. This leaves the Viceroy with only 3,500 men on the Shanghai side.

The force at my disposal is at present 1,643 Infantry, and 187 Artillery, the French having 400 Chasseurs and 300 sailors.

On the arrival of the remainder of the troops from the North I shall be able to move out with a column and attack the rebels, should they venture to come near the city; but with so small a force, and not the slightest assistance to be expected from the Chinese troops, I consider that it will be useless and unsafe to attempt to do

more than hold Shanghai itself, especially now that the hot weather is coming upon us.

I quite agree with you that the prospect of the Chinese being able to do anything for themselves depends entirely upon their organizing a force of Chinese, trained by European officers, and armed with muskets.

The Viceroy, however, shows much reluctance in placing men at my disposal for this purpose, and says that if he engaged men they would not remain. This is, I consider, because the pay he would give them would not render it worth their while to do so.

That they would remain if properly paid and treated may be inferred from the fact that a company of Royal Artillery here have a company of 280 Chinese, drilled to the guns and to assist in moving them, who not only adhere to their engagement, but are very willing, hardworking men, and behave well under fire.

I would, therefore, most strongly urge you to move the Chinese Government to place at my disposal 3,000 men for training, in the same manner as was done at Tien-tsin, and that arrangements be made by which these men should be paid by our Commissariat, and the necessary funds be supplied from the Customs revenue of Shanghai.

It might be still better if I were allowed to raise these men myself, and decide on the rate of pay they should receive, the Chinese finding the officers, clothing, barracks, &c.

Inclosure 6 in No. 9.

Brigadier-General Staveley to Sir G. C. Lewis.

Sir,

Head-Quarters, Shanghai, June 2, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to report that during my absence with the field force on the south side of the Woosung River, the officer commanding the garrison in concert with the senior naval officer at Shanghai thought it necessary to send to Kading a reinforcement of one naval 12-pounder howitzer manned by sailors of the Royal Navy, also a supply of provisions and ammunition escorted by a detachment of one native officer and fifteen sepoys of the 5th Bombay Native Infantry, the whole under a lieutenant of the Royal Navy.

At Nai-zain this party was unfortunately met by a large body of rebels, the gun, ammunition, and provisions lost, three sepoys of the 5th Bombay Native Infantry killed and four taken prisoners.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. STAVELEY.

No. 10.

Sir E. Lugard to Mr. Hammond.—(Received August 6.)

Sir,

War Office, August 5, 1862.

REFERRING to my letter of the 2nd instant, respecting the state of affairs in the neighbourhood of Shanghai, I am directed to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Russell, the inclosed copy of a letter which Sir George Lewis has caused to be addressed to Brigadier-General Staveley, authorising him to apply to the Governor-General of India for reinforcements in the event of his finding that the troops at present at his disposal are insufficient to enable him to protect the lives and properties of the British residents at Shanghai against the attacks of the rebels.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD LUGARD.

Inclosure in No. 10.

Sir E. Lugard to Brigadier-General Staveley.

Sir,

War Office, August 5, 1862.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches dated the 31st of May and 2nd of June respectively, in which you report the further operations which had been undertaken against the Tae-pings, and the reasons which had induced you to withdraw the detachments which had been left to garrison the captured towns of Kading and Najaor.

It is evident from your report that no reduction can at present be made in the force stationed in the north of China, and the Secretary of State approves therefore of your proposal to detain at Shanghae the troops which were under orders to proceed home on the evacuation of Tien-tsin.

Sir George Lewis trusts that the force at your disposal, with such additions as may be made to it from Hong Kong and Tien-tsin, will be sufficient to enable you to protect the lives and properties of the British residents at Shanghae against the attacks of the rebels; but in the event of your finding that a larger force is requisite, you will at once apply to the Governor-General of India for reinforcements.

I am, however, to impress upon you that this authority is only to be exercised in case of absolute necessity.

You will not fail to continue to keep the Secretary of State fully informed by every mail of the progress of events.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD LUGARD.

No. 11.

Earl Russell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 8, 1862.

I INCLOSE a copy of a letter addressed by Colonel Sykes to Lord Palmerston respecting the extent of the Tae-ping rebellion, and I have to instruct you to furnish me with a report on the matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 11.

Colonel Sykes to Viscount Palmerston.

My Lord,

House of Commons, July 29, 1862.

ON my authority last night you quoted the area in China under the Tae-ping influences at 400,000 square miles. I spoke from memory, and you will see by the accompanying statistics that I understated the case.

Including the provinces under the Shan-tung (in the north) and Tu-feh rebels in the south and west, two-thirds of China are withdrawn from Tartar rule.

Yours, &c.

(Signed) W. H. SYKES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 11.

STATEMENT of Area and Population of the Provinces occupied by the Tae-pings, according to the last Census of China.

Name of Province.	Area in Square Miles.	Population.	Distance from Peking in Miles.	Population to the Square Mile.	Remarks.
Kangsoo, Nanking	92,661	37,843,801	800	774	The capital Nanking, on the Yang-tze-kiang, is in this province.
Gan-hwuy ..		34,168,059	900		
Che-keang		26,256,784	1,100		Che-keang produces most of green tea and silk exported.
Total in the neighbourhood of Shanghai	131,811	98,268,844	..	..	These three provinces are in the entire possession of the Tae-pings.
Hwang-si	78,250	7,313,895	2,480	93	These three provinces are partly in the possession the Tae-pings.
Sze-chuen	166,800	21,435,678	1,900	128	
Honan	72,235	18,652,507	2,800	317	
Total of three Provinces	317,435	47,402,080	..	..	
Total area under Tae-ping influences	449,246	145,670,924	..	..	

The above is independent of the provinces occupied by the Shan-tung and Tu-feh rebels.

(Signed) W. H. SYKES.

No. 12.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received August 20.)

Sir,

Admiralty, August 16, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter, dated the 14th June last, from Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, and its inclosure from Commander Montgomerie of the "Centaur," describing the part taken by a portion of the crew of that ship in the defence of Sung-keong against the rebels.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 12.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

My Lord,

"Coromandel," Shanghai, June 14, 1862.

HEREWITH I forward the copy of a letter addressed to me by Commander Montgomerie of the ship "Centaur," in which that officer describes the part taken by a party from the "Centaur" in the defence of Sung-keong against the rebels; and I feel much pleasure in drawing the attention of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to the good conduct of the officer and men on this occasion, and specially of Robert Stephens, A.B., by whom the alarm was given on the morning of the 30th ultimo.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HOPE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 12.

Captain Montgomerie to Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope.

Sir,

"Centaur," Woo-sung River, June 7, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that on the 28th ultimo I landed the whole of my available force to strengthen the garrison in Sung-keong, while Colonel Ward went to Tsing-poo, with the intention of placing some ammunition in that town. I accompanied Colonel Ward with a view to ascertain the state of affairs at Tsing-poo. The expedition failed in consequence of the only gun that Colonel Ward could get into position bursting after the fourth round.

Tsing-poo was, as far as I could observe, completely surrounded by the rebels, who had numerous entrenched camps about a mile from the city walls. Colonel Ward returned to Sung-keong on the afternoon of the 30th ultimo. On the morning of that day, about 5.30 A.M., the rebels attacked Sung-keong with considerable determination on the north-east side with a force of about 1,500 men, but were successfully repulsed by the "Centaur's" men, who were the only people on the wall at the time of the attack. One rebel succeeded in scaling the walls; he fired a double-barrelled gun at Robert Stephens, seaman, who shot him. To this man's conduct, and the quick manner the "Centaur's" men came to the walls, I attribute the success of the repulse without casualties on our side, and a loss to the rebels of about 100 men. Among the killed were two Europeans; three were seen. The rebels were armed with rifles and gingalls. Their method of scaling was, two bamboos secured together at either end, about two feet apart, placed against the wall; the man coming up was assisted by men from below shoving him up the centre with another bamboo, the scaler helping himself with the uprights.

On the evening of the same day, James Newman (ordinary) was wounded while firing at some rebels under the walls.

I visited with Colonel Ward, on the 31st May, the Imperialist camps being formed on the creek leading to the river. On the following day, these camps were in a very defensible state, with guns in position and men tolerably well armed.

On the 1st June, owing to the near approach of large bodies of rebels, the suburbs were fired to a considerable extent round the walls. This work was performed by men protected by covering parties outside and men on the walls.

On the 2nd June, about 3.30 P.M., I observed that the Imperialists were driven out of their camps by the rebels, and shortly afterwards I made out that my second gig was in their hands, as also several of Colonel Ward's gun-boats, some of which were laden with muskets and kegs of gunpowder. A sortie party was formed; I took the whole of my force, and Colonel Ward took about 150 of his men, and went out by the south gate, proceeding to that part of the creek where the capture had been made. On our approach with a fire from the rifles and the field-piece, as soon as it could be got into position, the rebels began to move away rapidly, and the boats were recaptured. The rebels, of whom several were killed and wounded, were followed up a short distance. They dropped a considerable number of captured muskets; they, however, succeeded in carrying off between 300 and 400 muskets out of 560, and 36 kegs of powder out of 218. Getting dusk, I returned to the city, keeping up a fire to the rear, as the rebels continued to fire on us. I could not find any trace of the gig's crew. About 9 o'clock, I succeeded in getting all the boats into the city by the west Water Gate.

On the 3rd June I heard of the safety of the gig's crew and some Europeans who were in the gun-boats.

On the 3rd, 4th, and 5th of June, several attempts were made to storm the city, and a battery was thrice erected by the rebels outside the West Gate, with which they opened fire in the morning, but on each occasion were successfully destroyed by guns from the city.

On the morning of the 5th June, Chung Wang sent a letter to Colonel Ward, demanding that the city might be delivered up to him, to which of course no answer was made.

Daniel O'Connell, gunner's mate, died this afternoon from cholera.

In the evening, large bodies of rebels were observed moving to the northward in the direction of Su-keen.

On 6th June Captain Borlase arrived at Sung-keong, and on the following, in pursuance of instructions from you, I returned to the "Centaur."

I have great satisfaction in recording the zeal displayed by Lieutenant Stephens, the officers and men of my party, whose duties were most arduous, harassing, and fatiguing. They never left the walls during eight days and nights, without a single instance of complaint or murmur of any description.

Alarms were constant, and little confidence placed in portions of the Chinese troops.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN E. MONTGOMERIE.

No. 13.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received August 21.)

Sir,

Admiralty, August 16, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter dated the 17th June last, from Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, and of its inclosures, reporting the steps taken for the relief of the garrison in Tsing-poo, and that the rebels posted at Sekim, Quang-fu-lin, Simkio, and Tsipoo had moved off to a position five miles from Sung-keong.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 13.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

My Lord,

"Coromandel," Shanghae, June 17, 1862.

YOU will be pleased to acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that Colonel Ward having informed me that unassisted he was unable to keep the communication open between Sung-keong and Tsing-poo, and had consequently become desirous of withdrawing the garrison, to which he was unable to send the necessary supplies, I proceeded there on the 10th instant with the force noted in the annexed Return, when that operation was effected without difficulty, the town having been fired by the garrison before they left.

It appears that the rebels had made several vigorous attacks on the town, which were invariably repulsed with success, and that on two occasions the garrison made sorties, in which they destroyed all the camps of the rebels to the south of the town, and drove them to a distance of two or three miles from it.

I regret to have to add that Colonel Forrester, an officer of high character who was in command, and who conducted the defence of the town with marked ability and success, is missing.

The rebel force whose irruption in the neighbourhood of Woo-sung and Kading, together with their subsequent march on Sekim by Wangdow was reported in my letter of the 3rd instant, appears to have taken part in the sieges of Sung-keong and Tsing-poo, which were conducted simultaneously, and the former of which is fully described in Commander Montgomerie's report inclosed in my letter of the 14th instant.

Both were given up very suddenly, the larger portion of the rebel force moving off in the direction of Soo-chow; the cause assigned being the threatening aspect of the Imperialist forces in the vicinity of Hang-chow and Nanking.

The force left behind is stated, on information which I consider to be tolerably reliable, to be as follows :—

						Men.
At Sekim	..	..	..	..	..	12,000
Quang-fu-lin	..	..	..	..	2,000 to	3,000
Simkio	..	..	..	..	..	1,500
Tsipoo	..	..	..	..	..	4,000

They are also said to be at Taizam to the north of Shanghae, though probably in no great force, and they have small posts at Lotea and Leukahan in the same direction. They have further re-occupied Kading and Tsing-poo.

On the Pootung side the rebels have left the three towns of Cheunsa, Gaanway, and Hou-yung, which are interior to Tseo-lin; and the whole district of country on that side of the river from which it was intended to eject them is now cleared.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HOPE.

P.S.—Information has just reached me that Colonel Forrester was taken by the rebels and is kept in close confinement, with the view, probably, of sending him to Nanking for the purpose of being exchanged for one or two prisoners of note recently taken by the Imperialists.

Also that the rebels posted at Sekim, Quang-fu-lin, Simkio, and Tsipoo, influenced apparently by a sudden panic, have moved off to a position five miles north-west of Sung-keong.

I annex the translation of a summons sent in to Tsing-poo, together with Colonel Forrester's reply; also a paper of the same description shot into Sung-keong.

J. H.

Inclosure 2 in No. 13.

STATEMENT of Force employed at Relief of Tsing-poo.

NAVAL BRIGADE.

Captain Borlase, C.B., Her Majesty's ship "Pearl."

Captain Willes, C.B., Her Majesty's ship "Impérieuse."

"Impérieuse," Commander Gibson, Lieutenant Washington, Lieutenant Seymour:—

	Men.
S. A. Companies	100
2 launches, 2 field-piece parties, and guns	30
"Vulcan," Commander Strode, Lieutenant Hilton:—	
2 troop boats, 2 field-piece parties, and guns	30
1 cutter, 1 field-piece party	15
"Pearl," Lieutenant Denniston, Lieutenant Holbrook:—	
S. A. Company	50
1 launch, 1 field-piece party, and gun	15
Squadron.—Captain Holland, Lieutenant Stewart, Lieutenant Sturt:—	
Royal Marines	80
Total Brigade	320
Chinese troops under Colonel Ward	296
	616

GUN-BOATS.

"Kestrel," Lieutenant Davidson (Temporary).

"Etoile," Ens. de Vaisseau, — Bonfois.

Inclosure 3 in No. 13.

Proclamation by Ching Hengtime.

(Translation.)

CHING HENGTIME, Yulin, &c., proclaims to the officers and soldiers in Tsing-poo that he has, under the orders of Ying Wang, brought a large army; that he retook Kading directly he arrived, and has swept the imps out from Chipaou, Synching, &c., the whole country being restored to peace: that he now surrounds Tsing-poo, that he delays attacking it out of his affection for the troops, &c., in it, and would avoid destroying them, and, having already memorialized the Ying Wang to have mercy upon them, he attacks in the most merciful manner.

Now, the most detestable are the strange devils and foreign demons, and he has heard that among you there are men disguised as foreign demons, throwing away their lives for nought; nevertheless he has left the south road open, and the garrison are allowed to leave the city, and save their lives, in the guise of villagers; not one of them will then be killed: or should they wish to stop, and send in their submission, it is allowed them to do so.

But if they are obstinate, let them know that the city will then be surrounded and attacked ; and when it falls, and they die, their repentance will avail not.

Again, he would have you know, if it be not known to you already, that his master the Ying Wang has ever been merciful to the garrisons of the towns he has taken in his long and distinguished campaigns ; that he has been ever successful, ever victorious. He would remind you that the whole province of Anhui has been swept clear of the imps within seven days by the Ymier Wang, that it is clear of them, and that in this province of Kiang-kan the Ying Wang has advanced to retake Sung-keong ; that the Chung Wang and Ka Wang are on the march from Paou-shan to Woo-sung and Shanghae ; that so small a spot as this could be taken without difficulty if the divine soldiers were collected round it.

He exhorts, therefore, the garrison to change their clothes and run directly they see this, but to be careful not to dress as the strange devils, or their escape will be difficult, and their fault will endure longer than their lives. This goodness he displays on behalf of the Ying Wang, as it would be inconvenient that every one in the three provinces should be killed ; but should the garrison stupidly hold out, they must not blame him for forgetting his fatherland when fate overtakes them. He has then, as the Ying Wang's line extends from Kang-pu-lui to Sung-keong, and the Chung Wang and Na Wang hold from Paou-shan to Woo-sung and Shanghae, and there is no other way of escape, left the south road open that the garrison may avail themselves of it, without delay, not being deterred by fear ; he engaging that they shall not be seized as they run, such not being the custom of great Commanders ; but they must dress as villagers and run without delay, and it is important that they should not disguise themselves as foreign devils.

In conclusion, he informs them that the gun-boats at Chuchiako were driven back yesterday, twenty odd being taken ; that they appear in the greatest straits, and that he gives them to-day and to-morrow to run in, as his troops will be increased if they overstop the time, and they will find difficulty in going.

Such consideration being shown for the garrison, they should consider their position themselves, obey directly this order reaches them, and—

Do not disobey a special command.

20th day of 4th Moon of 12th year of the Divine Kingdom of Universal Peace of God the Father, God the Elder Brother, and God the Prince.

Inclosure 4 in No. 13.

Colonel Forrester to Ching Hengtime.

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

June 1, 1862.

YOU say if I do not give you the city to-day or to-morrow you will attack it and kill us, and I write to tell you that it is impossible for me to do so.

My master, Ward, having given me charge of this city, with plenty of troops, guns, stores, munitions of war, &c., I am bound to hold it, whatever numbers come against it, and prevent your taking it ; and I have given all my officers orders to do their best to do so, as I dare not give it up on my own responsibility.

I regret you do not approve of our foreigners stopping here, but if you want us you must come and take the city.

Inclosure 5 in No. 13.

Proclamation by Ching Kong.

(Translation.)

CHING KONG proclaims, for the information of the Imperialists, troops, and foreigners generally, that a true Lord has been born ; that he presides over the country ; that he has made Nanking his capital ; (that his reign has endured) from ten or more years ; that he has fought battles, great and small, is notorious. No need is there for further mention.

Now having received our Lord's commands to hold the city of Soo-chow, we had intended to remain there and give the Divine soldiers rest, and not to take your place, not imagining you would league with the barbarians and attack my cities,

forcing me to rise up and retake them, taking this city, too, on the way. For this causeless misfortune, for this injury to the people, who then is to blame? Had you not invaded my territories I should not have troubled you; the people would have remained undisturbed: would not this have been better for both sides?

Again, all the officers, both military and civil, all the soldiers, too, and the people are, without exception, Chinese; that you eat the bread of the Tsing Dynasty, serving a stranger. You may, indeed, say that you do so for causes long passed by, and that it is difficult to change when custom has been long established; but why should you give yourself up to the barbarian, selling our China a second time? Officers and soldiers, where is your wisdom? where is your rectitude? I fear you know not what is in store, pressed thus on both sides.

Know, then, that I have left the road by the south gate open, and I allow you, officers and soldiers, to leave by it for a while; the Divine troops will not prevent you; you may go where you will; or should the officers among you submit we will employ them in offices of trust, rewarding the soldiers who come over also; but if you will not submit, nor even go away, the south gate will be shut up by the Divine troops, and I fear your repentance will be too late.

Considering, again, the state of affairs now the barbarians have half (the Empire), what, O officers, will fidelity avail ye? what will you gain if you die in the service? And you, O soldiers, who get but three, or even two taels a month, sufficient to support you, if, as there is every chance, you lose your lives, I would ask you what becomes of yourselves—what of your families—where are your dollars? But whether you will submit, or whether you will go, needs must that you decide quickly, lest the people disperse and the restoration of tranquillity be delayed.

As for you, O barbarian troops, you had best return to your native country as quickly as may be; for being a distinct race and seeking trade only, why should you contend with me, or why should I be compelled to overcome you? For our Divine troops are as the waters or as the clouds, nor are they to be mistrusted or inefficient. If you are resolved and will fight with me, I fear, indeed, your trade will suffer.

Trusting, therefore, that you will consider it well, both Imperialists and foreigners, we address you this special proclamation.

The 4th moon of the 12th year of the Divine Kingdom of Universal Peace.

No. 14.

Sir E. Lugard to Mr. Hammond.—(Received August 21.)

(Extract.)

War Office, August 21, 1862.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to transmit to you, for the information and consideration of Earl Russell, the accompanying copy of a despatch, with its inclosures, from the officer commanding the troops in China, in which he reports the steps which had been taken for the protection of Shanghai since the date of his last despatches, together with the amount and distribution of the forces at his disposal.

Lord Russell will observe, that Brigadier-General Staveley draws attention to the large quantities of muskets and ammunition which are being supplied by Europeans and others to the rebels.

Inclosure 1 in No. 14.

Brigadier-General Staveley to Sir G. C. Lewis.

(Extract.)

Head-Quarters, Shanghai, June 17, 1862.

IT is of great importance that the town of Woo-sung, at the junction of the river on which Shanghai is situated with the Yang-tze-keang, should not fall into rebel hands.

Since my letter of the 30th May, Colonel Ward has found it necessary, being hard pressed by the rebels, to evacuate the walled town of Tsing-poo, in which

operation he was assisted by the navy, and 200 troops under my command. He is now with his whole force at Sung-keong.

The French, conjointly with ourselves, hold the town of Najaor, which is about half-way between the Woo-sung river and Hang-chow bay. Up to the present, the retention of this post has had the good effect of keeping the peninsula clear immediately behind it, and which, according to most reliable accounts, is now thoroughly in Imperialists' hands. And so long as this peninsula remains undisturbed, I have no apprehension of a failure of supplies for the population of Shanghae.

I inclose for your information a copy of a fresh agreement which has been entered into between the Admiral Sir James Hope, Capitaine de Kersanson, the French senior naval officer, and myself, showing that we have decided on confining ourselves to the immediate defence of Shanghae and Woo-sung, and the temporary occupation of Najaor, provided the Chinese hold out hopes of being able to relieve the allied French and English garrison in that town.

The number of troops now at Shanghae are, 2,800 British, including a battery and a half of artillery, and 288 French. To this could be added the garrison now at Najaor—250 British, and 250 French and disciplined Chinese.

At the request of Her Britannic Majesty's Minister, I have made an offer to the Chinese authorities to have a force of 3,000 Chinese; which offer has been so far accepted, that 300 men have been handed over to me for that purpose.

I wish to call your attention to the large quantities of muskets and ammunition which are being supplied by Europeans and others to the rebels. I have ascertained from deserters that 10 per cent. of the rebels are at present armed with muskets or rifles; in another year, a much larger per-centage may be expected to be so armed.

Inclosure 2 in No. 14.

Minute of Meeting between the Allied Commanders-in-chief at Shanghae.

Shanghae, June 14, 1862.

Present :

Sir James Hope, Vice-Admiral.
De Kersanson, Capitaine de Vaisseau.
C. W. D. Staveley, Brigadier-General.

Agreed :—

1. That since the Chinese authorities have failed to provide garrisons for the towns captured from the rebels, the defence of Shanghae is to be confined to the lines of the place, Woo-sung, and the immediate vicinity, so far as may be practicable.

2. Reliable information having been received that the towns of the Pootung side, so far as Tsio-lin, have been evacuated by the rebels, the present garrison will be retained in Najaor until Colonel Ward can relieve it by 300 of his men, provided the Chinese fulfil their agreement to place a garrison there or at Tsiolin.

3. With reference to the relative amount of the English and French troops to be retained for the protection of Shanghae, Brigadier-General Staveley stated that he had directed plans to be prepared of the place, with an estimate of the troops required for its defence, and that it would rest with the English and French Governments to determine the strength of their respective quotas.

(Signed)

J. HOPE,

Vice-Admiral and Commander-in-chief.

DE KERSANSON.

C. W. D. STAVELEY,

Brigadier-General commanding the Forces.

No. 15.

Vice-Consul Markham to Earl Russell.—(Received August 22.)

My Lord.

Shanghai, June 16, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, copies of despatches dated the 9th instant, addressed by Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MARKHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 15.

Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Shanghai, June 9, 1862.

A NOVELTY has lately appeared in this port in the shape of a ship under Japanese colours laden with a cargo of sundries for this market. Her name is the "Zen Sai Maroo," once the "Armistice" under British colours, and she was bought by the Japanese Government for 34,000 dollars for the express purpose of opening a native trade with this place, under the superintendence of a number of officials who form a sort of Commission charged with the duty of acquiring all kinds of information, commercial, statistical, and geographical.

Shortly after arrival they called on the Superintendent of Customs, on the introduction of the Netherlands Consul, and were courteously received, no difficulty, as far as I know, being put in the way of their entering their vessel.

Mr. Consul Myburgh, of Nagasaki, having given the Commission a letter of introduction to myself, I paid a visit to them on board a few days ago, and had a long and interesting conversation with them, through a good interpreter they have in their suite. They were very inquisitive as to the reasons for the employment of British subjects in the Custom-house, the working of the system, the amount of revenue collected, the value of land, the manner of tenure by foreigners, the relative position of Imperialists and rebels, the amount of assistance given by British and French troops, and many other points of interest.

Of course, I gave them all the information it was in my power to afford, and it is only to be hoped that I made no mistakes, for a Secretary was present, who carefully noted all that was said.

The Commission, in answer to a special inquiry I put on the subject, declared their object was entirely commercial, and that they had no political intentions whatever. They propose, however, taking a place on shore and sending the vessel back for a second cargo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 2 in No. 15.

Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract).

Shanghai, June 9, 1862.

WE are once more overrun with refugees, and this time in greater numbers than ever. They are actually camping out on the bund in front of the house, and on the roads near the stone bridge. It is frightful to see the numbers of women, aged, and children, lying and living out in the open air, and not over abundantly supplied with food. This last influx has been owing to a raid made two days ago by a few mounted men upon the villages to the north, to which the inhabitants had mostly returned after our occupation of Kading. It is a happy thing for these people that they possess a temperament which enables them to bear their troubles with cheerfulness and patience, and to adapt themselves without effort to any circumstances, however calamitous. Were it not for this wonderful trait in their character, we should find these sudden irruptions of vast bodies of houseless poor into our midst, far more injurious to our peace and security than has happily been the case so far.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammand.—(Received August 22.)

Sir,

Admiralty, August 16, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter dated the 17th June last from Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, with its inclosures, respecting the operations to be undertaken against the rebels in the neighbourhood of Shanghai, and suggesting the formation of a body of 6,000 Chinese troops to be disciplined in the European mode for the defence of the city.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 16.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

"Impérieuse," June 17, 1862.

YOU will be pleased to acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that prior to the capture of Kading, which formed the commencement of the operations for the purpose of clearing out the rebels from the neighbourhood of Shanghai, a meeting was held by the late Admiral Protet, Brigadier-General Staveley, and myself, at which the plan of operations to be followed was laid down in the Minute a copy of which is annexed, and in this plan their Lordships will observe that the opinion expressed by Mr. Bruce as to the temporary nature of the employment of the troops (letter of 19th March last, copy annexed) was strictly kept in view.

The evacuation of Kading and Tsing-poo, together with the determination which I found the Brigadier-General had arrived at, after his return from the former, to abstain from further active operations, being a departure from the plan laid down in the Minute in question, I addressed the Brigadier-General on the subject and give his reply, together with a second Minute which resulted therefrom.

The plan of operations laid down in the Minute of 22nd April has been fully carried out as regards the Pootung peninsula, which there is every reason to suppose is entirely cleared of rebels and by proper measures can easily be kept so.

In regard to the Shanghai side, although the operations have been attended with uniform success and little difficulty, it cannot be denied that the rebels by their irruption in force have not merely regained the ground in the first instance lost, but have got something more.

Colonel Ward assures me that he is able to maintain himself in Sung-keong, but till I see what turn affairs are likely to take in his neighbourhood, I shall retain a ship there to assist in keeping his communication with the river open.

In regard to the number of troops which will be required in future for the defence of Shanghai, I am of opinion it will entirely depend upon the character of the defence which is adopted. They are, I believe, four and a-half miles in extent, and if the troops by which they are to be defended remain within them, no doubt, according to the rules of art, a very large number will be required.

If, on the contrary, the troops move out and disperse the rebels whenever they show themselves within twenty miles of Shanghai, a comparatively small number would eventually prove sufficient. The unvaried success of the troops whenever they have come into collision with the rebel forces, and the composition of the latter, in regard to which I annex a memorandum, afford fair military grounds for my opinion.

I have written to Mr. Bruce to urge upon the Government at Peking to send authority here for raising 6,000 men, to be disciplined in the European mode, the cost of which to be a first charge on the Customs after the payment of the indemnities. On an estimate furnished me by Colonel Ward, the expense of such a force would not exceed 300,000*l.* per annum, and as the Customs duties for the last year amounted to upwards of 885,000*l.*, ample funds would be forthcoming for the purpose. The employment of a body of troops of this description, amply sufficient, if well commanded, to keep any number of rebels at a distance from Shanghai, would prove a real economy, as it would enable the Chinese authorities to get rid of an

immense rabble for which they now pay largely as troops, but which are utterly useless as such. If this authority is obtained, the Brigadier-General is prepared to assist in drilling them. I have also requested Mr. Bruce to apply to have the Chinese troops placed under the Brigadier-General's orders, as in that case they might be turned to some account.

Inclosure 2 in No. 16.

Mr. Bruce to Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope.

Sir,

Peking, March 19, 1862.

I HAVE notified officially to Brigadier-General Staveley that I see no objection to the evacuation of Tien-tsin, and to the reduction of the force in the north of China to what is required to hold Taku against any attack of banditti, however little such a contingency is to be apprehended.

I leave it to you and to the General to decide whether it is desirable to make use of the troops thus relieved at Shanghae, but without further instructions from home I do not think that they ought to be made use of for any operation not of a temporary character, or that would require their permanent employment at any port beyond Shanghae.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 16.

Agreement between the Allied Commanders-in-chief at Shanghae.

Present :

Le Contre-Amiral Protet.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope.
Brigadier-General Staveley.

Il a été convenu que,—

1. Il est nécessaire pour la défense de Shanghae d'occuper Kading, Tsing-poo, Sung-keong, Najaor, et Tsolin. De cette manière un district du pays suffisant en étendue pour fournir les vivres nécessaires à sa nombreuse population sera protégé, et les rebelles seront ainsi tenus à une distance suffisante pour empêcher la continuation de l'état d'alarme qui dure depuis quatre mois, et a été si préjudiciable à notre commerce.

2. Le Colonel Ward occupe à présent Sung-keong, et aussitôt la prise de Tsing-poo il s'engage d'y établir son poste avancé, et de garder cette ville. Les autorités Chinoises ont entrepris, et seront requises de fournir des garnisons suffisantes pour Kading, Najaor et Tsolin. Dans chacune des deux premières villes il sera bon aussi de placer 200 hommes de troupes, moitié Françaises, moitié Anglaises, pour venir en aide aux Chinois, jusqu'à ce que les forces du Colonel Ward soient suffisamment augmentées pour lui permettre remplacer les troupes Européennes par 300 de ses hommes.

3. Avant la prise de Kading et des autres villes sur les rebelles, on prendra les dispositions convenables pour em-

Agreed,—

1. That it is necessary for the defence of Shanghai to occupy Kading, Tsing-poo, Sung-keong, Najaor, and Tsolin, by which means a district of country will be secured, sufficient in extent to afford supplies requisite for the support of its numerous population, and to keep the rebels at a distance, which will preclude the continuance of that state of alarm which has prevailed during the last few months, and which has been so detrimental to its commerce.

2. Colonel Ward at present occupies Sung-keong, and he undertakes as soon as Tsing-poo is taken, to establish his head-quarters there and to hold it. The Chinese authorities have undertaken, and will be required to furnish sufficient garrisons for Kading, Najaor, Tsolin, in each of the two first of which it will also be expedient to place 200 troops, half English and half French, in support of the Chinese, until Colonel Ward's force is sufficiently augmented to enable him to replace them by 300 of his men.

3. Previous to the capture of Kading and the other towns from the rebels, proper arrangements shall be made to

pêcher qu'aucun homme ne quitte son rang pour piller; et pour recueillir ensuite tous les objets précieux afin d'en faire une juste répartition parmi les troupes, auxquelles on fera connaître la présente disposition avant le commencement des opérations.

4. Après que les opérations projetées auront été menées à bonne fin, il est convenue de garder à Shanghae 500 hommes d'Infanterie Française, une demie batterie d'Artillerie Anglaise, 250 soldats Européens, et 350 soldats Indiens.

Shanghae, le 22 Avril, 1862.

(Signé)

A. PROTET,

Contre-Amiral.

prevent any men leaving their ranks for the purpose of pillage; and subsequently to collect whatever may be of value, in order to its fair distribution amongst the troops, to whom the same is to be made known before the commencement of the operations.

4. After the proposed operations have been brought to a successful conclusion, it is intended to retain at Shanghae 500 French Infantry, and of English half a battery of Artillery, 250 European and 350 Native Infantry,

Shanghae, April 22, 1862.

(Signed)

J. HOPE,

Vice-Admiral.

C. STAVELEY,

Brigadier-General.

Inclosure 4 in No. 16.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to Brigadier-General Staveley.

Sir,

"Coromandel," Shanghae, June 13, 1862.

IN reference to measures to be adopted for the defence of Shanghae, detailed in the Minute of our meeting with the late Admiral Protet on the 22nd April last, I have to request that you will inform me to what extent it is your intention to carry them into execution.

Should any material deviation from them be in your contemplation, I think it desirable that, in conjunction with Commodore Kersanson, a fresh Minute should be drawn up, distinctly laying down the course to be pursued for the future, and I will request him to meet me at your quarters at any hour this afternoon you may think proper to name for that purpose.

The following information will be of service to me in reference to the arrangements required for the conveyance of the troops and other supplies, and I request you will favour me with it so far as circumstances will permit:—

1. The strength of the force quartered at Takoo, Shanghae, Najaor, and Hong Kong respectively, distinguishing Native from European troops.

2. Any change of their disposition during the next six months requiring transport.

3. Estimate of the transport required for stores and provisions to Takoo and Shanghae during the same period.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. HOPE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 16.

Brigadier-General Staveley to Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope.

Sir,

Head-Quarters, Shanghae, June 13, 1862.

IN reply to your letter of this date, first requesting to be informed to what extent it is my intention to carry out the agreement made on the 22nd April last, between the late Admiral Protet, your Excellency, and myself, for the defence of Shanghae, I have the honour to inform you that, under the circumstance of the utter inability of the Chinese authorities to provide garrisons for the towns captured from the rebels—the principal condition on which our agreement was based, and as the force at my command is insufficient to hold them, even if assisted by our French allies, I shall confine myself especially, now that the hot season has set in, to the immediate defence of Shanghae.

I shall continue, however, to occupy Najaor, provided the Chinese authorities hold out hopes of eventually relieving the allied garrison now in that town.

I wish further to inform you that I am not prepared to undertake any

distant operation unconnected with the defence of Shanghai, without orders from the Home Government.

With reference to the first division of the second paragraph of your letter, I have to transmit a Return which gives the information requested.

Respecting the second and third divisions of this paragraph, with the exception of an augmentation to the present garrison at Najaor, transport for which has already been applied for, and, as previously stated in this letter, an intention on my part to withdraw the garrison from Najaor whenever the Imperialists are able to take charge, the information required is contained in the annexed Memorandum, except the transport wanted by the Commissariat Department, which will be forwarded as soon as received.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. STAVELEY.

Inclosure 6 in No. 16.

Agreement between the Allied Commanders-in-chief at Shanghai.

Present :

De Kersanson, Capitaine de vaisseau.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope.
Brigadier-General Staveley.

Sont convenus :—

1. Que depuis que les autorités Chinoises ont manqué à fournir des garnisons pour les villes prises sur les rebelles, on devra se renfermer pour la défense de Shanghai dans les lignes de la place, dans Woo-sung et le voisinage immédiat, en s'étendant aussi loin que cela sera praticable.

2. Ayant reçu l'avis certain que les villes du côté du Poo-tung jusqu'à Tsolin ont été évacuées par les rebelles, on conservera à Najaor la garnison qui y est actuellement jusqu'à ce que Colonel Ward puisse les remplacer par 300 de ses hommes, pourvu que les Chinois remplissent l'engagement qu'ils ont pris de mettre une garnison dans cette place ou à Tsolin.

3. En regard aux nombres relatifs des troupes Anglaises et Françaises qui doivent être conservées pour la défense de Shanghai, le Brigadier-Général Staveley a donné avis qu'il préparera des plans de la place, ainsi que l'estimation des troupes nécessaires pour la défense, en se reposant sur les Gouvernements Anglais et Français quant à la détermination de leurs contingents respectifs.

Shanghai, le 14 Juin, 1862.

(Signé) DE KERSANSON.

Agreed :—

1. That since the Chinese authorities have failed to provide garrisons for the towns captured from the rebels, the defence of Shanghai is to be confined to the lines of the place, Woo-sung, and the immediate vicinity, as far as may be practicable.

2. Reliable information having been received that the towns of the Poo-tung side, so far as Tsolin, have been evacuated by the rebels, the present garrison will be retained in Najaor until Colonel Ward can relieve it by 300 of his men, provided the Chinese fulfil their agreement to place a garrison there or in Tsolin.

3. With reference to the relative amount of English and French troops to be retained for the protection of Shanghai, Brigadier-General Staveley stated that he had directed plans to be prepared of the place, with an estimate of the troops required for its defence, and that it would rest with the English and French Governments to determine the strength of their respective quotas.

Shanghai, June 14, 1862.

(Signed) J. HOPE,
Vice-Admiral and Commander-in-chief.

Inclosure 7 in No. 16.

Memorandum showing the Composition of a Rebel Force of 12,000 men, from Observation and such Information as has been procured from Chinese sources.

SIX thousand coolies, or peasants, pressed to act as such, and generally too happy to effect their escape.

Three thousand men carrying flags about a yard square, on bamboos, with spikes, armed with a knife or short sword.

Three thousand men armed with bamboo spears as above, gingalls, matchlocks, and European fire-arms of all descriptions, for the most part being inferior in quality.

They have no field artillery, but generally three or four small guns mounted on the earthworks of their camps or the walls of their towns, rarely exceeding a 6-pounder in size.

They invariably entrench themselves in any position where they intend to stay, surrounding their camps sometimes with as many as three ditches, the sides of which are planted with short bamboo spikes.

Their stockading is of no account, being made of bamboos, which are easily pulled out or cut down.

They have never moved out of their camp to meet our troops, though in passing Naizain they kept up a desultory skirmishing luring the whole day.

(Signed) J. HOPE, *Vice-Admiral*.

No. 17

Sir E. Lugard to Mr. Hammond.—(Received August 29.)

Sir,

War Office, August 29, 1862.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir George Lewis to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Russell, the inclosed extract from the Journal of the Quartermaster-General's Department, China, containing a review of the operations performed by the allied forces during the month of May.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD LUGARD.

Inclosure in No. 17.

Extract from the Journal of the Quartermaster-General's Department, China.

Shanghai, Saturday, May 31, 1862.—In reviewing the operations of the last month, it will be seen that four walled and strongly fortified cities have been taken by the allied forces from the rebels, viz., Kading, Tsing-poo, Najaor, and Tsolin. In Kading and Tsing-poo garrisons of Chinese Imperial troops were placed, but to garrison the two latter, notwithstanding the most explicit promises on the part of the Chinese authorities, not a man was forthcoming. Consequently Najaor had to be garrisoned by detachments of English and French troops, and Tsolin destroyed. Even at Kading an Anglo-French garrison had to be left, the Imperial troops selected to hold it being little better than a disorganized rabble, utterly unable to cope with or defend it from the rebels. Had the Chinese authorities fulfilled their part of the engagement, an irrecoverable blow must have been inflicted on the rebels; as it is, it is much to be feared that, beyond proving to them that a small force of Europeans can at any time penetrate to their strongholds, destroy their supplies, and successfully engage any number of them at one point, little has been done towards clearing the country of their presence or improving the condition of the inhabitants.

To effect this a considerable force will be required, and if this force is to consist, as it inevitably must, partly of Chinese troops, they must be drilled and exercised by us; in their present state they are worse than useless, inferior in every respect as soldiers to the Tae-ping rebels.

The Imperialist garrison of Kading, on its return to Naziang on the 27th instant, presented a ludicrous sight. A rabble composed of decrepit old men and boys, many unarmed, all unorganized, and overcome with terror; 100 of the rebels who had engaged the picquet 22nd Regiment yesterday would have annihilated the whole.

That the expulsion of the rebels from these districts would be most desirable cannot for a moment be doubted by any one at all conversant with them, or who has been an eye-witness of the desolating effect of their presence in one of the richest and finest countries in the world:—their track marked everywhere by ruined villages and dead bodies; the districts in their possession plundered, and the miserable inhabitants pressed into slavery, the old of both sexes being left to perish of starvation (both in Naziang and the villages between it and Shanghai, old men and women were found—I saw them myself—deserted and dying of want); no attempt at any form of government; luxuriant crops unreaped, and rotting in the fields.

This state of things, when contrasted with the thriving villages and richly

cultivated parts of the country still inhabited by Imperialists, must impart to the most prejudiced a very unfavourable opinion of the Tac-ping, or as they are commonly called, "cheong mow" (long-haired) rebels.

The country in which these operations have been carried on is naturally a most difficult one, being literally a network of creeks and impassable canals, but it has been rendered tenfold more difficult by the rebels, who have broken down most of the bridges, and in many places staked the canals.

Maps of Kading, Tsing-poo, Najaor, and Tsolin, showing plans of attack, have been prepared, and will be forwarded with remarks on the roads, water communication, &c., &c., by next mail.

Thermometer noon 80°.

(Signed) T. L. ROBERTS,
Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General, China Force.

No. 18.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received August 30.)

(Extract.)

Peking, June 1, 1862.

I HAVE just returned from an interesting excursion to the second station in Mongolia, on the road to Kiakhta, situated about forty miles beyond the large trading town of Chan-kia-kow (Kalgan). It was to this point that the teas destined for the Russian market used to be brought by the Shansi traders before the port of Tien-tsin was opened. Its importance in this respect will probably diminish, as the Russian caravans now proceed to Tien-tsin, and the tea will be shipped at Hankow, and be brought to the north by sea instead of by land.

The plateau of Mongolia is at an elevation of about 4,000 feet above the level of the sea, and it terminates in a sheer descent of some 1,500 to 2,000 feet to China proper; to its foot the sandy but highly cultivated plains of China extend. On climbing the steep face of the ridge, the traveller finds himself at once in a country where nature, inhabitants, and manners are changed, as if by magic. The plateau consists of a succession of slopes, covered at this season with grass. The people live in tents, move on horseback, and are employed exclusively in pastoral pursuits; in language and appearance they are totally distinct from the Chinese. I have nowhere seen the results of a dissimilarity in the physical conditions of a country so broadly and so abruptly marked.

I ventured to remark to the Bishop of Victoria during a visit he lately paid me at Peking that experience had clearly proved the failure of Protestant missionary enterprise, as at present conducted; that, as respects the ignorant and superstitious classes in China, there is little hope of the Protestant teacher competing successfully with the Roman Catholic Church, whose ceremonies offer much analogy to those of Buddhism, and render a transition comparatively easy. But that a large field, suitable for the more doctrinal spirit of Protestant worship, lies open among the educated classes of China, who, in general, are averse to idolatry, and among whom are doubtless to be found many minds imbued with religious aspirations, to which the Confucian philosophy affords but little aliment. That to obtain access to these minds, men of erudition, well acquainted with Chinese literature and able to express themselves with purity in Chinese, are indispensable; for it is well known that form as well as substance, the dress as well as the corpus of doctrine, are required to gain the attention of the Chinese to theological expositions. I recommended that those who are to devote themselves to missionary labours should undergo a regular and severe training in the Court dialect, like the student interpreters, and that the press, not street preaching, should be the instrument relied upon to give the Chinese a knowledge of the truth. In this way the educated classes would be approached, and Christian doctrine would work its way gradually, without exciting the animosity of the authorities, who oppose its foreign professors more from political than religious motives.

As regards the position of the Roman Catholic priests, I pointed out to him that there was an essential difference between their position and that of Protestant missionaries; the priests do not enter the country professedly as missionaries, but as the spiritual ministers of Chinese congregations already in existence; they come as priests serving cures of souls, and I am inclined to think that in point of fact they are little more. The additions they make to their flocks are chiefly abandoned children whom they pick up, feed, and educate.

I could not, therefore, reasonably demand the establishment of a Protestant missionary at a point like Siuen-hwa-foo, on the ground that there is a Roman Catholic priest there. The answer would be that he is there, not for the purpose of proselytising, but to look after Christians whose families have been resident there as Christians for generations. The Protestant missionary, on the other hand, when he goes into the interior, goes for the sole purpose of proselytising.

I am convinced that foreign Governments will most effectually serve Christianity in China by abstaining from protecting it as if it were a matter in which they have an interest, for the Chinese Government do not yet understand that Governments can be interested in this question except in a political sense. The testimony of missionaries is unanimous that the Chinese are not prepared to make sacrifices for their religious convictions, though the descendants of Christians do adhere with considerable pertinacity to an hereditary belief. The Chinese authorities are always able to nullify the presence of a missionary, if their fears or suspicion are awakened. But they are not generally fanatical, unless their vigilance and pride are aroused by what they consider a defiance of their authority, or unless the population, moved by fanaticism, urges them to act. During the campaign in the north, the Roman Catholic missionaries were at a distance of about seventy miles from Peking, and were not molested, though there was an occasional pretence of searching for them.

I am quite aware of the outcry to which I expose myself by the little encouragement I give to that class of preachers who seek to cover their want of success by an appearance of zeal and activity; but the more calm and reflecting among the missionaries themselves, I believe, recognize the soundness of my action, though it is hardly to be expected that they will have the courage to profess these views publicly. My proposal involves toil and devotion to the Christian cause, and a patient pursuit of results, not perhaps to be realized by the first labourers, which is neither in accordance with the spirit of this age, nor with the desire for immediate effects characteristic of Missionary Societies. But, in my opinion, it is the only course by which the pacific progress of religion can be secured, and Christianity preserved from the reproach of being the parent of parodies, like the Taeping imposture, or the motive of further war and disaster to China.

No. 19.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received August 30.)

(Extract.)

Peking, June 3, 1862.

AS I have reason to believe that Ki-ling, lately Governor of Canton, had not cordially co-operated in the measures ordered by the Prince of Kung to insure a proper reception of Mr. Caine at Chao-chow-foo, I took occasion, on his removal, to address the Prince again on the subject, reminding him that a distinct and serious breach of Treaty had been committed at that place, for which redress had not been given, and pointing out that Ki-ling had not pursued the course recommended as most likely to calm the popular effervescence.

I have received the inclosed reply from His Imperial Highness.

I have no doubt of the sincere desire, both of the Prince and of Lao, Governor-General of Canton, to avoid a dispute with us on this question, and I appreciate the difficulties they have to encounter in dealing with it.

The population of that district are notoriously turbulent, and addicted to clan-fighting and piracy; the authority of Government is weak, and the leaders in the riot, which prevented Mr. Caine from entering the city, are the heads of the association upon whom the Government depends to maintain its nominal power. I do not think, from the information I have received, that Lao is in a position to coerce the inhabitants, and an unsuccessful attempt to do so might end in an insurrection which would be far more prejudicial to our interests than a temporary exclusion from the city. Again, if we were to take the matter into our own hands, a considerable force would be required, for the city cannot be reached except in boats; and on two occasions last year, when coercive measures were adopted against villages in that neighbourhood, they were found to be strongly barricaded, and the inhabitants armed, and it was necessary to use artillery to drive them out. In one case the villagers took an officer and four men prisoners by a treacherous ruse, and the commanding officer was obliged to compromise the affair, in order to save their lives.

The Admiral could not spare the requisite force, under existing circumstances, even if it were deemed advisable to insist on Mr. Caine's immediate reception. But I am very averse to collision with the people of the district, as the peaceable circulation, hereafter, of unprotected foreigners in that neighbourhood, which is the object we wish to attain, would be thereby retarded rather than facilitated. I must, therefore, try and bring about a satisfactory solution by the aid of the Chinese authorities. As one obstacle, Ki-ling, is removed, the opportunity is favourable, and I shall instruct Mr. Robertson to urge it on Lao's consideration.

If Mr. Caine's reception at the chief city can be effected without force, it will have a great effect throughout the whole district. I have little confidence in any permanent good resulting from attacks on isolated villages.

There will be no real security for foreigners in southern districts, where a strong prejudice, however engendered, exists against them, until a better understanding is brought about, or until the Chinese Governor is in possession of a force which will overawe the disorderly; and I have directed Mr. Robertson to impress strongly on Lao the necessity of re-organizing, without delay, his Canton force, so that he may be really master in the districts he at present nominally governs. The restoration of the authority of Government in the eyes of the people is essential to the undisturbed enjoyment of our Treaty privileges.

Inclosure 1 in No. 19.

Mr. Bruce to the Prince of Kung.

Sir,

Peking, May 12, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to call the attention of your Imperial Highness to the affair of Chaou-chow-foo, which still remains unsettled.

Your Imperial Highness is aware that Her Majesty's Consul was prevented by a mob from proceeding, as he was bound to do, to that city; and that the house of the father of his linguist was destroyed on account of his connection with the British Consulate.

The names of the members of the Committee who directed these violent proceedings, and who issued proclamations offering rewards for the heads of foreigners, were stated in my despatch of September 9 on the subject.

I must observe that the steps taken on the occasion by the Governor Ki-ling were not calculated to insure Mr. Caine's reception in the city. He ought to have despatched a higher officer from Canton, with a proper guard, if necessary, to insure respect and obedience, instead of which he put the management of the affair into the hands of the Taoutae, whose incapacity and cowardice had been already proved. Nothing else was to be expected from Ki-ling, who has continued to show himself hostile to foreigners, in spite of your Imperial Highness's instructions.

I must request your Imperial Highness to inform me what steps have been taken to obtain a proper reception for Mr. Consul Caine at Chaou-chow-foo, and to indemnify the father of the linguist for the unjustifiable destruction of his property. It is not desirable that I should be obliged to report that the Imperial Government treats with indifference the remonstrances I make against a plain breach of Treaty, or that it should be compelled to excuse itself on the ground of its inability to cause Treaty rights to be respected at a place where no rebellion exists.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 19.

The Prince of Kung to Mr. Bruce.

(Translation.)

May 17, 1862.

THE Prince of Kung makes a communication in reply.

The Prince is in receipt of a despatch from his Excellency, the British Minister, to the effect that the reception of Mr. Consul Caine at Chaou-chow-foo had not been arranged; that the Consul proceeding thither had been stopped by a mob; that his linguist had been denounced as a person having unlawful relations with foreigners, and the house of the linguist's father demolished. His Excellency requested to be informed what steps had been taken by the provincial authorities in this case.

It would appear that the Prince has written repeatedly to the Governor-General and Governor to urge the settlement of this question without loss of time, so as to enable Consul Caine to enter the city at once. The Governor Ki (Ki-ling) is now leaving the province at the head of a force, and as it will consequently not be in his power to unite (with the Governor-General) in consideration of the steps to be taken, the Prince is writing once more to the Governor-General Lao to send another officer of rank to Chaou-chow, zealously to devote himself to setting the right path (before the people). The Governor-General in question has ever shown himself a man of capacity; and although it is scarcely possible (for the Prince) to say beforehand when this affair will be satisfactorily settled, his Highness feels pretty sure that the Governor-General will not fail to find some means of so settling it.

As to the destruction of the house of Mr. Caine's linguist, the Prefect of Chaou-chow has reported the contribution of 100 dollars indemnity by the Committee (of Chaou-chow), and the Prince begs to append copy of the Prefect's representation showing that the sum had been paid in open Court into the hands of Li Ta-ti, the son, on behalf of Li Kai-tung, the father, by the Acting Magistrate of the district of Hai-yang.

A necessary communication, inclosing the representation of the Magistrate of Chaou-chow-foo, addressed to the Hon. Mr. Bruce, &c., &c., &c.

Inclosure 3 in No. 19.

The Prefect of Chaou-chow-foo to the Governor-General of Canton.

(Translation.)

THE Prefect of Chaou-chow-foo reports that Pang, Acting Chief Magistrate of Hai-yang states that having instituted the inquiry directed by his Excellency (the Governor-General), he had received a written statement from Li, the shopkeeper, showing that a number of persons being filled with doubts and suspicions had pressed into his house to make inquiries, and that in the pressure of the crowd his furniture had been much injured; but that no mob riot had been contemplated, nor was any of his property missing.

The Committee had on deliberation awarded him 100 dollars to compensate for the damage done, and this sum was paid on the 16th of the 8th moon, during the incumbency of the Magistrate Pang, into the hands of Li Ta-ti, son of Li Kai-tung.

Thus was the case closed.

No. 20.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received August 30.)

My Lord,

Peking, June 6, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of despatches from Mr. Consul Harvey, reporting the re-capture of Chinhae and of Ningpo, the latter by an English and French naval force, under the command of Captain Dew of the "Encounter." The Imperial authorities are now in possession of these places.

The Chinese population seem animated by a feeling of intense hatred towards their Tae-ping oppressors, and will readily co-operate in securing the place against any future attack.

It appears that the Tae-pings have been largely supplied with foreign arms and ammunition, and it is most fortunate that the "Paragon" was seized before she delivered her cargo. The only commerce patronized by the insurgents is that of arms, for which they exchange the plunder they accumulate during their expeditions. Their anxiety to seize the open ports is due, no doubt, chiefly to the facilities they would thus enjoy for the purchase of the implements of destruction.

Mr. Harvey narrates fully the circumstances that led to the expulsion of the rebels from Ningpo. Sooner or later a collision must have taken place; indeed, there is good ground for the belief that the rebels were resolved to exercise jurisdiction over the foreign Settlement, which would inevitably have led to a rupture, as soon as their batteries, &c., were completed. Had the foreign authorities not acted with promptitude and vigour, the loss of life, sufficiently severe as it is, would have been much greater.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosures in No. 20.

Consul Harvey to Mr. Bruce, May 9 and 16, 1862.

[See "Further Papers relating to the Rebellion in China," presented to Parliament in August 1862, Inclosures 1, 2, and 3 in No. 27.]

No. 21.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received August 30.)

(Extract.)

Peking, June 10, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to forward copy of a letter from Mr. Wyndham, which gives a very clear and interesting account of the state of affairs on the Yang-tze River, and at the ports of Kiu-kiang and Hankow.

Mr. Wyndham went on leave, but he has made himself very useful, and has forwarded to me valuable information on various matters from Shanghai.

Inclosure in No. 21.

Mr. Wyndham to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.)

Shanghai, May 20, 1862.

IN the settling of the concession at Hankow a great difficulty exists; the mandarins have been throwing every opposition in the way of its being handed over to foreigners, and the latter, seeing no prospect of being speedily installed on it, have been driven to buy land elsewhere, paying for it enormous prices: this has opened the eyes of the Chinese to the wealth of the foreigner, and exorbitant sums are consequently asked for miserable hovels standing upon the concession. Mr. Parkes, it appears, was unable to settle what price should be given for the property, per mow, as at Kiu-kiang, owing to the number of houses standing upon the concession, and left the price to be arranged by the Consul. The mandarins have been preventing the proprietors from coming forward themselves, and thus keep the matter in their own hands, and ask ridiculous sums, in order that they may obtain the greater squeeze, and the longer they can hold off the higher they drive the market.

The Admiral, on my leaving Shanghai, entrusted me with a letter to Lieutenant Poole, commanding the "Havoc" gun-boat, inclosing a letter to the Viceroy at Hankow, in which he complained of the non-settlement of the concession, and of the conduct of braves towards foreigners. He also requested me in a letter to accompany Lieutenant Poole, with the Consul, to the Viceroy, which I did. I informed the Viceroy that I had come from Peking, and that I regretted that I should have to report to you the very unsatisfactory state of affairs which existed with regard to the handing over of the concession. I told him that at Tien-tsin the matter had been satisfactorily settled, and that I trusted that before I left I should find that he had taken steps towards the speedy settlement of the same at Hankow. He for some time evaded every question Lieutenant Poole urged upon him; at last he consented to supply a guard of two or three soldiers to each hong which might desire to have them, and to issue a proclamation calling upon the mandarins and people to settle the price of the concession. I requested him to issue it in time for me to take a copy of it to Peking; it was out the following day, and a mandarin was also sent over to arrange about the price of houses, &c., on the concession. The Viceroy evidently inferred that I had been sent down expressly to see into the matter; however, notwithstanding the zeal he then showed, I very much doubt a speedy settlement of the affair without very stringent orders from Peking.

Notwithstanding the difficulties of settling on the concession, it is astonishing how rapidly residences and godowns have sprung up elsewhere; foreigners have purchased land on both sides of the Han, and on the banks of the Yang-tze, both in Hankow and for miles below it. All seem sanguine as to its becoming one of the largest ports in China, provided it is not again attacked by rebels. The inhabitants of Hankow are civil; the "braves" passing through on their way to the army, whose head-quarters are at Nganking, are the only people from whom to fear molestation.

At Kiu-kiang a foreign Settlement is also rapidly springing up, and all speak of

it as a port likely to become one of importance; tea, oil, and hemp form the principal exports from both Hankow and Kiu-kiang; foreign goods, such as shirtings, lead, &c., and Chinese, Japanese and Straits produce, the imports.

The inhabitants of Kiu-kiang are also perfectly civil. "Braves," as at Hankow, constitute an occasional annoyance; they are unpaid, unfed levies, chiefly from Honan, preying upon the towns through which they pass, and of whom foreigner and Chinese both stand in dread.

The Imperialists have lately been making progress, and are slowly advancing upon Nanking; they have a large force at Gan-ching, and now hold the West Pillar, a strong position some way below that town. The rebels hold the East Pillar, a similar position on the opposite bank; they were fighting at Tae-ping, both as I came up and down, the Imperialists attacking in war-boats, of which they have great numbers, and in which the rebels are entirely deficient, but courage and energy appear to prevail on the side of the latter. Woohoo has been thrice attacked by the Imperialists without success.

No. 22.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell,—(Received August 30.)

My Lord,

Peking, June 10, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of the reply of Sir James Hope, concurred in by Brigadier-General Staveley, to my letter of the 19th of March.

These officers, in conjunction with the French naval and military authorities, proceeded to drive the rebels out of the fortified positions they held within the radius it was considered necessary to clear to ensure the safety of Shanghae.

This was effected with trifling loss, and principally by the employment of artillery, without which the positions would have proved difficult of attack. In this manner the area on the left bank of the Woosung River was cleared; and having left a small garrison in Kading, and a portion of Colonel Ward's (Chinese) men in Tsing-poo, supported by a considerable Chinese force in the field, the allied forces crossed the river to clear the area between Shanghae and the coast.

Unfortunately the Chinese commander, encouraged by success, was not content with the unambitious part assigned to him, but advanced twenty miles beyond Kading, in the hopes of wresting a town from the insurgents. The Ching Wang, finding him unsupported, led a large body of men against him, routed and dispersed his force, and proceeded to invest Kading and Tsing-poo, the victualling of which had not been completed. On this General Staveley re-crossed the river, to relieve the garrisons of these places, and he has resolved, as the hot weather is coming on, to confine his operations within narrower limits, until he can discipline 3,000 Chinese troops, whom the Governor of Kiang-su has consented to place under his orders.

It appears that the Tae-pings are losing ground along the Yang-tze River. Tsung Kwo-fan is advancing slowly down stream, accompanied by a large force of war-boats, in which the rebels are entirely deficient. Had the Imperialists a few gun-boats, properly armed and commanded, the towns on the Yang-tze, including Nanking, would have been all re-taken this year.

I am informed that Woo-hoo has fallen. The success of the Imperial General is not due to fighting so much as to the complete exhaustion of the country in rebel occupation. It has ceased to produce even the necessaries of life, the garrisons are without supplies, and, probably, the rebels cannot maintain an army in the field sufficient to defeat the Imperialists, who draw their resources from the country in their rear.

I know no better proof than this condition of the inability of the Tae-pings to administer, and of the unconquerable aversion of the industrious classes to them. For years they have been in possession of that part of the country, and the result is that it has become a desert.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 22.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to Mr. Bruce.

Sir, "Impérieuse," Shanghai, May 3, 1862.

IN reply to your letter of the 19th March, I have the honour to acquaint you that on consultation with Brigadier-General Staveley and Admiral Protet, having arrived at the conclusion that it was necessary to clear the insurgents from the vicinity of Shanghai by force, and that by proper arrangements the Imperialists can be made strong enough to protect the boundary line we have fixed on from the incursions of the marauders, we decided on the adoption of that course.

From a copy of a letter addressed to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty by Earl Russell,* and transmitted for my guidance, I am led to the belief that in the adoption of this course we have anticipated the intentions of Her Majesty's Government, and the facility with which the consequent operations have hitherto been conducted to a successful issue affords reasonable ground for the hope that the entire plan we have in view will be accomplished with little risk and loss of life.

I have requested Brigadier-General Staveley to add his own remarks to this communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HOPE.

I fully concur in the Admiral's views.
(Signed) C. STAVELEY, Brigadier-General.

Inclosure 2 in No. 22.

Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce, May 26, 1862.

[See Inclosure 3 in No. 8.]

No. 23.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received August 30.)

My Lord, Peking, June 19, 1862.

IN continuation of my despatch of the 10th instant, I beg to forward copies of further communications from the Commander of Her Majesty's land forces in China, on the subject of the late operations undertaken to relieve Shanghai from the pressure of the insurgent forces.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 23.

Brigadier-General Staveley to Mr. Bruce.

Sir, Head-Quarters, Soon-keong, May 14, 1862.

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR J. HOPE, Admiral Protet of the French navy, and myself having decided that it was necessary for the defence of Shanghai, and for the provisioning of its inhabitants, that the country in its vicinity should be cleared of rebels to a radius of thirty miles, I do myself the honour to inform you of the operations that have already been undertaken to carry out the agreement we came to.

The walled cities of Kading and Tsing-poo were taken by escalade, the former on the 1st, and the latter on the 12th instant, by Her Britannic Majesty's land forces, and the marines, seamen and troops placed at my disposal by the English and French Admirals.

Kading has since been garrisoned by 200 British troops, 140 French, and 300 of Colonel Ward's Chinese, and 1,800 of Imperial troops.

Tsing-poo is garrisoned by 700 of Colonel Ward's troops.

The capture of these two cities clears the country of rebels to a distance of thirty miles on the north side of the Woosung River.

* See "Papers relating to China," presented to the House of Commons in pursuance of their Address dated April 8, 1862; No. 37.

I am now about to commence operations on the south, or Pootung side of the river, and arrangements have been made with the Chinese authorities to garrison the towns we may take on that side of the river, with Imperial troops, who I have every confidence will be able to hold them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. STAVELEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 23.

Brigadier-General Staveley to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Head-Quarters, Shanghai, May 23, 1862.

IN my letter of the 14th instant I reported for your Excellency's information the captures of Kading and Tsing-poo, thereby clearing the rebels from the north side of the Woosung River from Shanghai.

I have now to inform you that on the 17th instant the allied forces stormed the strongly fortified town of Najaor, during which operations I regret to say that Admiral Protet, commanding His Imperial Majesty's forces in China, was killed; but for this unfortunate incident the loss would have been trifling, only fifteen wounded in the combined force.

On the 20th instant the walled town of Tso-lin near the sea was taken by escalade with trifling loss.

The force was then about to proceed along the coast towards Woosung so as to drive the rebels from the rest of the towns on the Pootung side of the Woosung river, when news reached us that Kading, in which the allies had a garrison of 350 men, was threatened, and that Ching Wang, a rebel Prince, was advancing with a force of 50,000 men on Shanghai and Woosung.

I further received information that the Viceroy, who had agreed to garrison the towns the allied forces might take on the Poo-tung side with Imperial troops, was unable to meet his engagement. Under the circumstances, and as Sir James Hope, Capitaine Kersanson (Admiral Protet's successor), and myself, considered it would be useless our taking any more of the enemy's strongholds if there were no troops available to hold them, we decided on desisting for the present from all operations on the Poo-tung side of the river and returning for the protection of Shanghai, and to keep up communication with our garrison at Kading.

Communication has since been cut off with Kading, which is supposed to be invested by rebels. The allies propose, therefore, to march for its relief to-morrow, and establish a post half-way at Na-zain. On the 21st instant a small party of seamen under an officer, with some soldiers of 5th Bombay Native Infantry, conveying a 12-pounder gun, some ammunition and provisions, in boats from this place to Kading, were attacked on the canal at Na-zain, the gun and ammunition captured, and seven men of the 5th Bombay Regiment killed. Information has now been received that Tsing-poo, which the allies took on the instant, and which is now held by Colonel Ward's men, is invested by the rebels. I feel unable, however, to give him any assistance, having to leave at once for the relief of Kading, besides having left a garrison at Najaor on the Poo-tung side.

Na-zain, May 26.—Since writing the above I have advanced as far as this place with a column of French and English troops, seamen and marines, for the purpose of throwing supplies, guns, and ammunition, into Kading.

On consideration, however, of the difficulty of transport in shallow creeks, with rebels all around, the harassing nature of the service for the troops at this season of the year, that the Chinese have declared themselves unable to hold the places we have taken, and seeing that therefore there is nothing to prevent the rebels from coming between Kading and Shanghai, I have come to the decision of withdrawing the garrison from Kading. In compliance with the wishes you have expressed to me, I urged on the Viceroy the importance of a large increase to his force of troops trained by European officers, and he has so far accepted an offer I made to him as to agree to send me 3,000 men to be drilled by officers and non-commissioned officers of Her Majesty's army, in the same manner as is now being done at Tien-tsin.

As it is impossible to foresee what may be the result of the hostile attitude of the rebels, and as the Imperialist troops are utterly worthless, I have considered it advisable to have all the troops that can be spared at Shanghai, and have consequently ordered the garrison of Taku, which it had been formerly intended should

amount to 500 men, to be reduced to 250, with half a battery (three guns) Royal Artillery, and one serjeant and six sappers Royal Engineers, under Lieutenant-Colonel Hayne, 67th Regiment.

Should it be necessary to increase the Taku garrison at any time, it can be done from this in a few days.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. STAVELEY.

No. 24.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received August 30.)

(Extract.)

Peking, June 20, 1862.

WITH reference to the subject of exemption certificates issued by the Chinese Custom-house, and to the construction to be put on the Transit-duty Rules, I beg to forward herewith a despatch addressed by me to Her Majesty's Consul at Shanghai.

Inclosure in No. 24.

Mr. Bruce to Consul Medhurst.

(Extract.)

Peking, April 30, 1862.

I THINK it important to call your attention to the Treaty stipulations on the subject of transit duties.

Article XXVIII of the Treaty of Tien-tsin contemplated two objects:—

1. A notification at each port of the inland charges leviable on goods.
2. An optional commutation by foreigners of those dues, by the payment of a single charge.

On framing the Tariff rules, it was found impossible to carry out the first object. It was determined, as more in consonance with what was equitable and just, to confine our demands to secure the foreign trade in foreign hands from arbitrary exactions, and not to interfere with the system of inland duties on trade carried on by the Chinese. The attempt to define the inland dues was, consequently, abandoned; and it was agreed that foreigners should be allowed, under certificate, to carry goods to or from the interior, on payment of one fixed charge, which is certainly stated to be obligatory on the parties. The power of the Chinese Government to increase the inland charges to any amount on goods not protected by certificate was thus left untouched; and I understand that on the article of silk the rates specified in the Tariff rules have been made universal, these rates being heavier than duties previously levied on the native trader—an instance of the exaggerated ideas prevalent on this subject among foreigners. But looking to the difficulty experienced by the Chinese Government in raising funds to meet the expense entailed on it by the formidable organization of brigandage throughout the country, I think it very likely that the inland duties would have been still further augmented had it not been for the check imposed by the Tariff rules, which are likely to constitute in future a maximum rate. I do not think it probable that the Government will be able to levy higher charges on its own subjects than those to which it is by Treaty limited in the case of foreigners. And however much it is to be regretted that such an augmentation should have taken place, I am not aware that the Chinese Government is adopting a different course from that which would be pursued under the same circumstances by any Government struggling for its existence.

I am bound to state, on considering maturely the wording of the Tariff rules, that both in the letter and in the intention they apply to all cases in which trade with the interior is carried on by foreigners in their own name; and I do not see by what arguments I could claim exemption, were the Chinese Government to demand confiscation of goods brought down by a British subject, as his property, without certificate, as the rule states distinctly that any attempt to pass goods inwards or outwards, otherwise than in compliance with the rule here laid down, will render them liable to confiscation. The Chinese Government has not, however, claimed to assert its rights to this extent, but it has exercised its right of augmenting the duties on uncertificated merchandize.

It would be certainly a more plausible proposal to insist that, in the present state of Shanghai, no inland duties should be payable on certificated merchandize, than to deny the right of the Chinese Government to exact such dues on native trade, with respect to which China has entered into no stipulation with us. But as a proposal to take away a branch of revenue—for such in reality these inland charges are—while the Government is engaged in a struggle to restore tranquillity, would be a proceeding as hostile in its effects as it is unsustained by international precedent, I certainly should not venture to bring it forward without previous instructions from Her Majesty's Government.

I regret that, in the regulations I published on transit duties, I did not state positively the distinction above noted, and explain that the option reserved is simply the option to carry on trade with the interior in the manner practised before the Treaty of Tien-tsin. For I see great difficulty, consistently with the Tariff rules, in claiming to protect as British property merchandize not covered by certificate; and it is impossible to object officially to any charges that may be imposed upon it.

In the article of silk, as the duties have been equalized, there is no longer any object in not taking out a certificate, except in so far as the absence of that document may facilitate the evasion or compromise of duties legally leviable. This reason is certainly not one calculated to induce Her Majesty's agents to look upon it with favour.

The ground on which I combated the attempt of the Chinese Government to exact proof from the merchant of payment of transit duties on all produce shipped, is to be found in the fact that the Tariff rule did not apply to produce brought down by Chinese, and that if the foreigner bought such produce at the port, he could not be justly held responsible for the payment of charges leviable at a time when it was not in his possession.

No. 25.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received August 30.)

Sir,

Admiralty, August 29, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a further letter, dated the 3rd ultimo, from Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, respecting the defence of Shanghai and the state of affairs at that place, and I am to acquaint you that a copy of the above letter, as well as of that of the 17th June upon this subject, has been forwarded to the War Office for the information of Sir George Lewis.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure in No. 25.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

"Coromandel," Shanghai, July 3, 1862.

YOU will be pleased to acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that Commander Montgomerie having visited the town of Tsiolin by my desire, found it in the occupation of an Imperialist force of 1,400 men with 16 guns, 100 gingalls, about 200 muskets, the mandarin in command of which acquainted him that there were no rebels nearer than Keusan-wei, about eighteen miles distant along the coast to the westward. He added, that if 100 Europeans would accompany him from Najaor he would turn the rebels out of Keusan-wei.

This mandarin, originally an Imperialist officer at Guan-wei, one of the towns of Poo-tung Peninsula, interior to Tsiolin, having joined the rebels during their occupation of it, had retained his command there; and on the capture of Najaor by the allies having returned to his allegiance with all his people, has since been useful in clearing the rebels out, and may probably now be depended upon not to change sides again. He spoke confidently as to his ability to hold Tsiolin against any number of rebels.

On the Shanghae side of the river the rebels only occupy Tsing-poo and Kading, and these towns are stated now to be held by coolies only, ready to quit it at the slightest notice to do so. With the above exception therefore, the plan laid down in the Minute of the 22nd April has been substantially carried out, and Shanghae is now experiencing the good effects resulting therefrom.

Should the rebels meet with ill-success in the neighbourhood of Nanking, there is of course little prospect of their being troublesome in this quarter. Should the reverse prove to be the case, whether they will return here or not is so purely a matter of speculation that I refrain from hazarding an opinion on the subject.

In any case I hold to the opinion that Kading and Tsing-poo should be recaptured, considering that our military reputation requires that we should do so, to be rendered unfit for occupation as rebel posts, or to be held as Imperialist garrisons, if they have troops to put into them, and the Brigadier-General is prepared to support them if requisite.

No. 26.

Sir E. Lugard to Mr. Hammond.—(Received September 3.)

Sir,

War Office, September 2, 1862.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir George Lewis to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Russell, the inclosed copy of a despatch from Brigadier-General Staveley, reporting the final evacuation of Tien-tsin by Her Majesty's troops on the 24th May.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD LUGARD.

Inclosure in No. 26.

Brigadier-General Staveley to Sir G. C. Lewis.

Sir,

Head-Quarters, Shanghae, June 21, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to report that the town of Tien-tsin was finally evacuated by Her Majesty's troops upon the 24th ultimo.

For reasons set forth in my previous correspondence relative to the defence of Shanghae, I have detained at that port all the troops lately forming the garrison of Tien-tsin, with the exception of the number I considered necessary for the due protection of the South Taku Fort.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. STAVELEY.

No. 27.

Sir E. Lugard to Mr. Hammond.—(Received September 3.)

Sir,

War Office, September 2, 1862.

WITH reference to my letter of the 21st ultimo I am directed by the Secretary of State for War to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Russell, the inclosed copy of a despatch from Brigadier-General Staveley, in continuation of his previous reports on the state of affairs in the neighbourhood of Shanghae.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD LUGARD.

Inclosure in No. 27.

Brigadier-General Staveley to Sir G. C. Lewis.

(Extract.)

Head-Quarters, Shanghae, July 3, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to report for your information that matters as regards the Tae-ping rebels in the neighbourhood of Shanghae have remained quiet since my letter of the 17th ultimo.

The Poo-tung or south side of the Woo-sung River remains quite clear as far as Tsolin and Najaor, the former town being garrisoned by Imperialists and the latter by English and French troops.

Although Kading and Tsing-poo to the north of the Woo-sung River remain in rebel hands, the bulk of their force appears to have moved northward towards Soo-chow.

Colonel Ward's force now holds the town of Soong-keong, rty miles further up the Woo-sung River than Shanghae.

At the request of Mr. Bruce I have urged the Chinese authorities to exert themselves in organising a larger force after the European model, and offered every assistance in drilling the men, but all they have given me as yet are 300 of a very inferior description. I have represented this to Mr. Bruce, who will no doubt move the Government of Peking to send orders to place more men at my disposal for instruction. It remains, however, to be seen how far the orders will be obeyed.

Europeans continue to visit the rebel country for purposes of trade and are treated with civility; large quantities of silk have been brought into Shanghae during the last fortnight, and trade seems in a thriving state.

No. 28.

Mr. Layard to Sir E. Lugard.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, September 4, 1862.

I AM directed by Earl Russell to request that you will state to Secretary Sir G. C. Lewis that his Lordship sees no reason to apprehend that reinforcements from India will be required for China. Lord Russell would, therefore, suggest that General Staveley should be directed not to incur the expense of calling for troops from India, unless in a case of absolute necessity.

It appears clear that if Kading had not been prematurely taken at a time when no Chinese troops had been drilled and organized, a retreat from our own advanced positions would not have become indispensable.

No. 29.

Earl Russell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 5, 1862.

HER Majesty's Government approve your views with regard to missionary efforts in China, as reported in your despatch of the 1st June.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 30.

Earl Russell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 5, 1862.

HER Majesty's Government approve the note of which a copy is inclosed in your despatch of the 3rd June, and which you addressed to Prince Kung, respecting the failure of the Chinese authorities to accord a proper reception to Mr. Consul Caine on his arrival at Chaou-chou-foo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 31.

Consul Medhurst to Earl Russell.—(Received September 18.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, July 18, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch addressed by me, this day, to Mr. Bruce.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure in No. 31.

Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Shanghai, July 18, 1862.

THE anticipation expressed in my despatch dated the 14th ultimo, of the speedy fall of Sung-keong has so far not been borne out by the result. The rebels have not only made no further demonstration against that city, but, for some reason yet unexplained, have fallen back in every direction, leaving this place and the neighbouring villages in a state of quiet they have not enjoyed for months past. Reports are rife that Chung Wang is alarmed for the safety of Nanking, which is being hard pressed by the Imperialists, but of this I have no certain information. The Footae here is meanwhile availing himself of the temporary lull to make what progress he can in regaining lost ground. His troops, aided by a strong detachment under General Ward, are at this moment attempting the re-capture of Kiu-shaw-wei, which the Imperialists look upon as the key of the entire Pootung peninsula, and the possession of which will enable General Staveley to withdraw his garrison now in occupation of Nauchian. The Taoutae, yesterday, assured General Staveley and myself that Kiu-shaw-wei would certainly be taken in a day or two.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. H. MEDHURST.

No. 32.

Sir E. Lugard to Mr. Hammond.—(Received September 19.)

Sir,

War Office, September 19, 1862.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Russell, the inclosed copy of a despatch which has been received from Brigadier-General Staveley, in which he reports that the rebels had withdrawn from the neighbourhood of Shanghai.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

EDWARD LUGARD.

Inclosure in No. 32.

Brigadier-General Staveley to Sir G. C. Lewis.

Sir,

Head-Quarters, Shanghai, July 17, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your information, that the rebels have ceased to give any annoyance in the vicinity of Shanghai, and that, from information received from the Europeans in the silk districts, the bulk of their force appears to have gone towards Nanking, which city is pressed by a force of Imperialists.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. STAVELEY.

No. 33.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received October 1.)

(Extract.)

Admiralty, September 29, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, dated the 2nd August, reporting on the state of affairs in China.

Inclosure in No. 33.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

"Coromandel," Shanghai, August 2, 1862.

ON the 27th ultimo I visited Ningpo in the "Coromandel," where I found the arrangements for the future defence of the place in a very satisfactory state. I have called upon Captain Dew for a full report in regard to them, a copy of which will be transmitted for their Lordships' information.

On my way there I touched at Chapoo, and notified the rebel chief in command that the Pootung Peninsula being under the protection of the allies, and belonging to Shanghai, any interference with it would draw down severe reprisals upon him. Colonel Ward, about ten days previously, had captured the town of Kui-sa-wei, which lies halfway between Cho-lin and Chapoo, placing in it an Imperialist garrison of 5,000 men.

He has since captured a fort in the Leu-ho Creek, about fifteen miles to the westward of the entrance of the Woosung River, from whence the rebels were accustomed to trade with Shanghai, and where they had collected 200 junks for the purpose of conveying an expedition to the Island of Tsun-ming, opposite the mouth of the Woosung River.

The fort has been blown up, the junks destroyed or retaken, and the intended expedition completely arrested. Shanghai is largely supplied from this island, which has hitherto been free from the incursions of the rebels, and has afforded refuge to a large population.

Canton and the other commercial ports are in a state of tranquillity.

No. 34.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received October 2.)

(Extract.)

Peking, July 8, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch from the Prince of Kung, complaining of the proceedings of Mr. Gingell in burning a junk employed in carrying "braves" at Hankow, who had assaulted a British subject at that place; also, copy of Mr. Gingell's report, and of my despatch to the Prince, pointing out that these violent measures were rendered necessary by the refusal of the Governor-General to take proper steps for the protection of Her Majesty's subjects at that port.

At the same time I have written to Mr. Gingell to express my opinion that though he was quite right in detaining the junk, her destruction seems to me inexpedient. I have further to inclose copy of a despatch requesting the Prince to give orders for the fair valuation of the tenants standing on the ground set apart as a place of residence for Her Majesty's subjects. Orders to act in accordance with the lease have been accordingly given.

I forward also copy of a despatch to Mr. Gingell on this latter subject.

I am inclined to think it unfortunate that a site was chosen involving the removal of so large a number of Chinese. The native will always follow the foreign trader, and it is but reasonable that the foreigner, who is the last comer, should be accommodated where there is least interference with existing rights. It is not desirable to begin our intercourse at a new port by the violent measure of dispossessing, as if we were conquerors, a number of the inhabitants.

The system of Settlements has many advantages, and ought not to be abandoned, but consideration ought at the same time to be shown, in the choice of the

site, for the feelings and rights of the Chinese proprietors, and ultimately it will be found that the real interests of the foreign merchant will be best promoted by acting in this spirit.

The Americans, who have bought, I believe, individually, have acquired sites without any difficulty, and with the goodwill of the former owners: I do not know whether they have bought properties forming a compact settlement, or are scattered along the banks of the river.

Inclosure 1 in No. 34.

The Prince of Kung to Mr. Bruce.

(Translation.)

Peking, April 30, 1862.

THE Prince of Kung makes a communication.

The Prince has received a communication from the Governor-General of Hu-kwang complaining that on the occasion of a disturbance between the braves and foreigners (at Hankow), Consul Gingell had carried off and burnt a war-junk without applying (to the Governor-General) to have the case looked into and disposed of; and that when the local authorities addressed the Consul, he continued to maintain that he was in the right.

The Governor-General begs the Prince to write to his Excellency the British Minister on the subject.

The Prince would observe that ever since the ratifications of the Treaty were exchanged, a daily improvement in the relations between the two countries has been perceptible, and this even more of late, from the fact that China has been beholden to British troops, who have co-operated with her at Shanghae against the rebels, over whom numerous victories have been gained.

The Prince has himself treated every question that has presented itself during his administration of foreign affairs with strict impartiality; and lest the provincial authorities should fail to protect the foreigners in their jurisdiction, he has, as occasion required, sent positive orders to the local authorities to second His Highness's desire for a good understanding between the two countries; insisting upon it that in all affairs in which Chinese and foreigners were parties, they must dispose of these zealously and promptly, and forward reports of such cases to the yamun of Foreign Affairs for investigation: the aim of His Highness being to keep foreigner and native at peace with one another, that so friendly relations might be preserved in the most perfect integrity.

When last year the British Minister complained that the Consul at Kiu-kiang had been outrageously treated by the braves, the Prince wrote to the Governor of Kiang-si to punish the delinquents with the utmost severity, and to note the offence of the authority responsible as the law requires. (This shows that) His Highness had no desire whatever to show favour to the Chinese to the prejudice of the foreigner.

In the present case the Governor-General of Hu-kwang has twice complained that in consequence of a difference (altercation) between the braves and foreign merchants, Consul Gingell had seized a junk and burned it. Now the violence of the braves is of course deserving of punishment, and the Prince has written to the Provincial Government concerned to look carefully into the facts, and deal with the case impartially. But, on the other hand, the complaint is that the British Consul, without making any application to have the case inquired into and disposed of, has seized a vessel and burnt her, that he will make no attempt to recover articles that have been lost from on board of her, or find out where the missing braves are, but that he does insist on compensation by the local authorities of such a trifle as a gold chain. This is certainly not an equitable course of proceeding.

The case being a very serious one, it was of course the duty of the Consul to represent it to the Governor-General, and in the event of his not disposing of it, it would have been perfectly open to him to address the British Minister, and His Highness on receiving a communication from his Excellency would have written to the Provincial Government to punish the delinquents with all possible severity; but for the Consul to take on himself without representation, either to the local authorities or to the British Minister, to seize and burn a junk, is a course of proceeding which makes equally void (or useless) the yamun of Foreign Affairs, of which the Prince is the head, and the appointment of the British Minister to reside in the capital.

Yet more improper was the language employed by the Consul in his interview with the Prefect of Han-yang, when he stated that if any foreign merchant were guilty of similar violence to Chinese, the Chinese might take like action against them.

The administration of affairs by the two Governments must be in a spirit of reason and equity, but if native and foreigner are to act in the sense of Mr. Gingell's words, it is to be feared that they will become the pretext of feuds between the mercantile communities, which would be seriously to the prejudice of friendly relations.

His Excellency the British Minister is invested with all authority. The Prince has full confidence in his justice as an administrator, which indeed is known to all, native and foreigner alike.

It will be clear to his Excellency whether in Mr. Gingell's words and proceedings he is wrong or right, and the Prince makes no doubt that his Excellency will be sure to hit on some satisfactory course by which, when he shall have fairly weighed the facts, he will so act as to give a warning for the time to come, that the duration of friendly relations for evermore may be hoped for.

The Prince is writing to the Governor-General of Hu-kwang to seize the braves guilty of violence, and to keep them close prisoners. He farther incloses the despatch of the Governor-General, and the correspondence between the Consul and the provincial authorities.

A necessary communication addressed to the Hon. F. W. Bruce.

Tung Chih, 1st year, 4th moon, 2nd day (30th April, 1862).

Inclosure 2 in No. 34.

Consul Gingell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Hankow, April 3, 1862.

AN outrageous assault, coupled with the offer of the greatest indignities, has been committed on the person of Mr. Little, a British subject at Hankow.

While walking quietly through the streets on the morning of the 1st instant, he was deliberately struck by a brave, who also snatched at his watch-guard. Mr. Little returned the blow, whereupon he was at once assailed by several other braves: he defended himself as long as he was able, and at length took refuge in a shop, the keepers of which pointed to a ladder; this he ascended, and drew up after him; the braves, however, clambered up, and Mr. Little tried to effect his escape by a back way, but he was waylaid by the braves, knocked down, severely beaten and bound. They tied a rope round his neck, and attempted to drag him through the streets; the rope he managed to disengage, telling them in Chinese that he would accompany them to a mandarin; they then forced him along through the streets, and took him on board a brave-boat lying at anchor in the Han, when they beat and kicked him for refusing to kneel. After being on board but a minute or two a petty mandarin, hearing, I presume, of the disturbance, went on board and liberated him, and Mr. Little having rested awhile at his house to recover from his faintness, caused by the treatment he had received, immediately after presented himself before me at the Consulate, and reported the circumstances to me.

While Mr. Little was here, two petty mandarins came to the Consulate, and in conversation with Mr. King mentioned there had been a trifling row in the streets between a merchant and some braves; but that the matter had been settled, the braves receiving 200 blows.

Upon being informed that Mr. Little had lost his gold chain with appendages, they asserted this was not the case; they were further told that no delay would be allowed, and that the punishment of the braves must be inflicted either at this Consulate, or in the presence of an officer from it. Mr. Little left with them to point out the boat to which he had been forcibly conveyed.

These violent assaults on foreigners by braves have of late become so frequent and vicious, and the subordinate officers charged with the conservancy of the place have in the majority of instances taken so little pains to arrest or to make a severe example of the actual culprits, that I resolved, if immediate action was not taken by the authorities, to forthwith address Lieutenant Poole, and request him to seize the brave-boat, as such an indignity could not be allowed to pass without the fullest redress being obtained.

Accordingly I dispatched Mr. King, accompanied by Mr. Royal, of Her

Majesty's gun-boat, and Mr. Little, to ascertain the position of the boat, and to find out what steps were to be taken towards the instant arrest of the actual culprits, and infliction of punishment by the mandarins who had visited the Consulate a short time before, and to whom the junk had already been pointed out by Mr. Little. They were found quietly smoking on board a vessel, and alleged they were awaiting the arrival of the officer in charge of the braves. Fearing, therefore, that the brave-boat would move to some other locality, and that there was every chance of the actual offenders escaping, I wrote to Lieutenant Poole, and requested him to seize and make an example of the boat if he coincided in my views. This he at once did, but the braves escaped. I the same evening received a letter from that officer informing me that he had burnt her.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. RAYMOND GINGELL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 34.

Mr. Bruce to the Prince of Kung.

Sir, *Peking, May 13, 1862.*

YOUR Imperial Highness alluded, in conversation, a few days since, to the destruction of a junk at Hankow by the British authorities. I will briefly state the events which led to this act.

Your Imperial Highness will recollect that, in the month of July last year, I informed you that repeated acts of violence were perpetrated on unoffending foreigners by the "braves" who touched at Hankow on their way to different points on the river; and I suggested, as the only remedy, that these disorderly bands should not be allowed to anchor their boats near the place where foreign honggs are established. But my suggestion was not carried into effect, and outrages and insults to foreigners have continued.

In the month of March several thousand braves came down the river, and anchored in face of the merchants' residences. For ten days all trade was stopped between the honggs and the foreign ships, as cargo-boats would not venture among them.

On the 11th March a Mr. Gordon, in making the attempt with a cargo-boat, was struck at with a spear and slightly wounded. Next day he was struck in the street by a brave, and wounded by several of the men's comrades.

In the same street, and on the same day, another British subject was assaulted and beaten.

On the Han-yang side of the river three foreigners were attacked by braves with drawn swords and stones.

A Mr. Maclean, while standing at his hong, was fired at by a brave out of a boat.

These instances will show your Imperial Highness what is the condition of Hankow, and of how little avail have been the remonstrances of the Consul.

On the 1st April, Mr. Little, in walking through the streets, was struck by a brave, who stole his watch-chain at the same time. On defending himself, he was attacked by other braves, knocked down, and tied with a rope. He was carried on board their boat and again beaten because he refused to kneel. Finally, he was released by a subordinate officer.

The Consul, finding that the officer charged with maintaining order in the place could not be induced to act with the vigour necessary to put an end to these outrages, determined to make an example of the boat, which was accordingly seized and destroyed.

I must observe, that the Consul has not acted in this matter precipitately. For months this system of outrage has been going on, and the Chinese authorities, though constantly appealed to, are either indifferent or unable to stop them. I accuse them of indifference to the lives and security of Her Majesty's subjects, because they might have prevented these acts by not allowing braves to anchor their boats near the foreign honggs. I made the suggestion to your Imperial Highness, and the Consul has repeatedly pressed it on the Viceroy, but neither my remonstrances nor those of the Consul have been attended to.

As all efforts to obtain protection and security from the Chinese authorities are unavailing, I am bound to provide the means; for your Imperial Highness may rest assured that I will not allow braves to attack and rob Her Majesty's subjects with

impunity. I shall write by the next mail to the Admiral that, if Mr. Gingell reports to him a continuance of these outrages at Hankow, I consider it essential to the safety of Her Majesty's subjects that braves be not allowed to anchor or come near the Settlement, and that I authorize him, if necessary, to use force to keep them at a distance.

I am, &c.
(Signed) **FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.**

Inclosure 4 in No. 34.

Mr. Bruce to Consul Gingell.

Sir,

Peking, May 12, 1862.

WITH reference to your proceedings in the case of Mr. Little, reported in your despatch of the 3rd ultimo, I ought to remark that, although I approve of them generally, I feel considerable doubt as to the propriety of burning the junk.

The reason probably was that Lieutenant Poole could not spare men to retain possession of her until the offending braves were seized and punished; still I think destruction of property as a retaliation is a bad example to set, and, considering that the junk did not belong to the "braves," it would have been better to have delivered it over to the Chinese authorities.

You will see by the inclosed copy of the despatch I have addressed to the Prince of Kung that I am resolved that Her Majesty's subjects shall be protected either by the Chinese authorities or by Her Majesty's naval forces, and that the remarks I make to you on the burning of the junk are only intended for your consideration in similar cases in future. I am quite alive both to your difficulties and to the firmness and good sense you have displayed in dealing with them.

The Chinese Government has, on its side, great difficulties to contend with, and it is our duty and interest to take them into account. But, as at present advised, I cannot see why the suggestion to keep the braves at a distance from the foreign Settlement has not been carried out, and I look upon it as the only arrangement by which foreigners can be secured.

I am, &c.
(Signed) **FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.**

Inclosure 5 in No. 34.

Mr. Bruce to the Prince of Kung.

Sir,

Peking, June 28, 1862.

I HAVE to call the attention of your Imperial Highness to the dilatory proceedings of the Hankow authorities in making the necessary arrangements to clear the British concession ground at that city.

When Mr. Parkes and Admiral Hope visited that place in 1861, it was agreed, with a view to harmony and security, that a piece of ground should be set aside for the accommodation of British settlers at that port, and accordingly a site was chosen and leased to Her Majesty's Government, at an annual rent of ninety-two taels, or thereabout.

It was agreed by the lease that no farther buildings were to be erected by the Chinese on the ground so leased, and that whenever any portion of the ground was required, the Consul, with the Prefect of Hanang-foo, and the Chief Magistrate of Hanyang there, should meet, call on the native owners to produce their title, and should then proceed to decide the price, the people not being allowed to raise the price nor the British subject to compel them to accept his valuation, equity being maintained so that neither the one nor the other should incur loss: the price thus assessed to be paid and the land transferred, on payment, to the British purchaser.

A large trade sprang up and the influx of British merchants to Hankow was considerable; the Consul divided the ground into lots and put it up to sale in the usual manner.

Only two of these lots have been handed over, and the attempt to obtain the removal of the Chinese occupiers by private negotiation has failed, though the merchants were disposed to deal liberally. Your Imperial Highness will see that no agreement was possible when the owners asked as much as 20,000 or 30,000 taels for pig-hongs, and buildings of that description.

It does not appear that the local authorities have consented to meet the Consu and settle the price to be given to the owners. By the terms of the lease they are bound to do so.

I request your Imperial Highness to instruct his Excellency Kwan Wên to direct the authorities to act in this matter as the lease provides, without further delay. I shall have to address your Imperial Highness on other matters connected with Hankow, where the course pursued by the Chinese authorities is such as to inspire grave apprehension of misunderstanding to any one anxious to see friendly relations subsisting between Great Britain and China.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.



Inclosure 6 in No. 34.

The Prince of Kung to Mr. Bruce.

(Translation.)

July 3, 1862.

THE Prince of Kung makes a communication in reply.

The Prince is in receipt of a communication from the British Minister, complaining—

[Here follow extracts of Mr. Bruce's despatch of 28th June, regarding land at Hankow.]

In regard to the purchase of land at Hankow, the Governor-General of Hu-kwang had already written to state that there had been an unwillingness on the part of the inhabitants of the site foreign merchants (proposed) to buy and build on, to part with their ground until the appearance of the official proclamations on the subject. They had then consented, but some were set upon obtaining high prices for their land, and some found it not so convenient to establish themselves elsewhere; (the sales had been retarded) in some instances on one ground, in some on another. Besides this, a custom prevailed among the people of allowing three months (for removal) in case of mortgage, and four months in case of sale; and for this cause, even where the sale had been negotiated, there had been possibly (or in some instances) delay. Then again, as is well known, land at Hankow is "an inch of gold for a foot of ground."

Building sites must not be estimated as (merely of the same value as) at Kiu-kiang and Chin-kiang. The people are greedier of gain (or look after larger profits).

An officer has now been deputed (by the Governor-General) to hurry on the completion of the different sales, and to fix a day by which the money must be received, and the ground handed over, of which arrangement the Governor-General has written to apprise the British Admiral.

Being informed by the British Minister in the despatch under acknowledgment, that but two lots of the ground which it was originally agreed (should form the British settlement) at Hankow, have been handed over to their purchasers, and that the proprietors of the remainder are holding out for exorbitant prices, the Prince is writing to the Governor-General to urge him to take action without loss of time. If the original agreement specified the prices to be paid, and the land has not yet been handed over, he has undoubtedly been very dilatory, and it becomes the Prince's duty to desire him to carry out the agreement, and to see that the land is handed over, and the money received with all possible expedition. Also, to instruct him that if British merchants are applying for other land (than that referred to in the agreement), or if in the agreement the land alone is referred to without specification of the price, he must see that the sales are fairly negotiated, that the people do not run up the prices, nor the foreign merchants insist on unreasonably low rates; that he must aim, in short, at justice to both parties.

On receipt of the Governor-General's reply, the Prince will again address his Excellency the British Minister.

A necessary communication addressed to the Hon. Mr. Bruce, &c., &c.

Tung Chih, 1st year, 6th moon, 7th day (July 3, 1862).

Inclosure 7 in No. 34.

Mr. Bruce to Consul Gingell.

Sir,

Peking, June 30, 1862.

WITH reference to the difficulties experienced in obtaining possession of the land at Hankow, leased to Her Majesty's Government as a site for British residents, I have to inform you that I have called upon the Prince of Kung to order the Chinese officers, in terms of the lease, to meet and settle the prices to be paid to the Chinese owners and occupiers of the land.

The question is one of considerable difficulty, and requires to be managed with discretion as well as firmness.

In no country do people like to be turned out of their houses and property, and if the site is an eligible one, what is really just may appear exorbitant. It would be highly inexpedient by a too close valuation to give rise to a popular belief that we had taken advantage of our force to drive a hard bargain with a portion of the inhabitants.

By Mr. Parkes' report it appears that the site was chosen in preference to an unoccupied one lower down the river, on account of its trading advantages, and because part of it was already raised. These advantages admit of a money value being placed upon them; the owners and occupiers are entitled to demand it.

Though I regret the inconvenience to which the mercantile community are exposed by this delay, still we are not warranted in trying to effect a settlement by any other than moral means. Her Majesty's Government would certainly not approve of the prospects of trade at Hankow being imperilled by violent action in any subsidiary question. Nothing but actual danger to life or to British property arising from riots would justify an appeal to naval force.

In my opinion it is to be regretted that the site chosen should have rendered necessary the removal of so large a number of inhabitants. The trade will always follow the foreign trader, and the expense of filling up would have been a less evil than this contest with unwilling or grasping owners, which will be renewed every time a lot is sold, and will prove a constant source of irritation.

If it were not too late I should be glad if a site could be chosen not open to these objections; but I mention this only to show that I should be very glad if we could escape the difficulty.

What pre-occupies me most is the renewal of these questions every time a lot is sold.

If the business could be settled once for all, the evil would be transitory, but as far as I understand the position, it will be a permanent grievance.

I am, &c.

(Signed) **FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.**

No. 35.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received October 2.)

My Lord,

Peking, June 28, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith copy of a report on trade at Formosa, by Her Majesty's Vice-Consul in that Island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) **FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.**

Inclosure in No. 35.

Vice-Consul Swinhoe to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Tamsuy, Formosa, January 1, 1862.

DURING our sojourn in Tai-wan-foo, extending over nearly four months, the schooner "Wild Wave" was the only British vessel that entered the roadstead. She came twice in ballast, and, after a day or so's stay each time, left in ballast. In October, when the monsoon began to change, three foreign vessels (two of which were Hamburg vessels, and one Danish, about 300 tons each) loaded off Tai-wan-foo with sugar on Chinese account.

On our arrival at Tamsuy we found the British schooners "Vindex" and

"Wild Wave" in the harbour. They had arrived with opium, and left soon after with musters of native produce. Two Hamburgh vessels and one Danish were also here loading on Chinese account. No other vessels arrived during the few days to the close of the year.

I will now enumerate the exports of the place as far as my information extends. They consist of the following articles:—Rice, indigo, coarse sugar, jute bark, ground-nut cakes, camphor, coal, grass-cloth fibre, camphor-wood, rattans, tea, pickled vegetables, small pulse (black and white), barley, wheat, and sulphur.

The coal produced from the hills at the north end of Formosa is found to be very bituminous, and burns too fast to be of much use to steamers on the China coast; but it is said to mix well with Welsh coal, and its comparatively small cost of from four dollars to five dollars a ton, will make it probably a large desideratum, especially if the intention to illuminate Hong Kong with gas be carried into effect. There are two mines, one at Kelung, the other on the north branch of this river, and the coal produced by both is of much the same quality.

The tea obtained here is not of a superfine quality, but I have been informed, on the decision of three tea-tasters, to whom I sent samples for inspection, that it would readily find a market at Australia, the Cape, and Singapore. It rules at a price of ten dollars a picul, and is much imported by Chinese dealers at Amoy and Foo-chow to mix with the better class of teas, and the mixed commodity is then sold to the foreign merchants as Congous, Souchongs, &c. The taste of this tea is reported to be very fair, but the objection to it is owing to the coarse mode in which the leaves are prepared and packed. As the hills, however, are no great distance from the harbour, this could be obviated by energetic speculators, who might themselves visit the spot on which the article is grown, and make their own arrangements.

Rice.—It is owing to the abundant production of this article in Formosa that this island has justly been named the "granary of China." For many years past, during the dearth of rice on the main in the hot season, large numbers of vessels have been employed loading rice at Formosa, most of them resorting to Tamsuy, as affording the best accommodation.

Sugar.—Tai-wan-foo has the advantage over this port in this commodity, as it is grown in much larger quantities in that neighbourhood, and they understand there the refining process. The land here is well adapted for the growth of the cane, and were it not for Swatow and Amoy usurping the market in this article, we might expect a good business in its exportation from Formosa.

Jute is exported to the opposite parts of the China coast for the manufacture of rope and cord.

Hemp-fibre is grown here and exported to China to weave into the cloth called by the Chinese "summer" or "hot cloth," and known to whitemen as "grass-cloth." It is twisted for the trade into large skeins of different quality. The manufactured grass-cloth and other cloths are imported in large bales, for the purpose of having them dyed with the Formosan indigo, which is famed for its brilliant tints. Much of this cloth is also dyed black in a solution of coarse sugar and alum, and some dyed yellow with turmeric powder dissolved.

Rattans of rather a coarse kind are found edging the interior hills from north to south. A small trade is done in them to the Chinese coast, where their low price often affords them a market before the finer but dearer kinds from the Straits.

Barley and *Wheat* are grown during the winter months and exported, but in no great quantities. The flour produced by the latter is white and finer than that of the corn grown in South China.

Sulphur.—The active mine which yields this article is situated among some hills about ten miles distant from this town, but the spot is watched jealously by the mandarins, who do their utmost to prevent the natives from melting down the limestone in which the crystals occur, for fear that the brimstone might be exported and sold to the rebels. But should a white man wish to export the article in any quantity, I should think permission might be obtained for him on his giving a guarantee, secured by bond, that none of the stuff he exported should be allowed to be sold to any Chinese not duly authorised by the mandarins to purchase it.

Camphor.—The manufacture of this article has for some years been monopolised by the Taoutae of this island, and its sale farmed out to wealthy natives from time to time. In former years a good deal of it was clandestinely produced and smuggled across the main, where it was eagerly bought up by foreign speculators and carried to Hong Kong for shipment to Calcutta, where it finds the readiest market. But

now the monopoly is so closely watched that almost the whole trade falls to the lucky individual whose Chinese agents can secure the monopoly. This bad system has occasioned the price of the article in Hong Kong to increase considerably, and to make the profits accruing to the fortunate monopolist almost fabulous. The cost of the article I learn amounts to only 6 dollars in the place where it is manufactured. The monopolist buys it from the mandarin at 16 dollars a picul, and sells it in Hong Kong at 28 dollars. The gigantic laurel (*Laurus camphora*) which yields the camphor, covers the whole line of high mountains that extend north and south throughout Formosa, but as the greater part of this range is in the hands of the aborigines, the Chinese are able to gain access only to those parts of the mountains that are contiguous to their own territories, and are possessed by more docile tribes. The trees, as they are required, are selected for the abundance of their sap, as many are too dry to produce enough camphor to repay the labour and trouble of the undertaking. A present is then made to the chief of the tribe to gain permission to cut down the selected trees. The best part of the tree is secured for timber, and the refuse cut up into chips which are boiled in iron pots, one inverted on another, and the sublimated vapour is the desired result. The camphor is then conveyed down in carts of rude construction, and stored in large vats with escape-holes at the bottom, whence exudes an oil known as the camphor oil, and used by Chinese practitioners for its medicinal properties in rheumatic diseases. Samples of this oil have lately been sent home and may become esteemed as a desideratum in Europe. The camphor is taken from the vats and stored in bags to contain about a picul each, in which state it is exported.

The Chinese Government have empowered the Formosan authorities to claim, on their account, all the timber produced by the island for building purposes; and it is on this plea, I understand, that the Taoutae appropriates the prescriptive right of dealing in camphor. Messrs. John Burd and Co., at Hong Kong, held the monopoly for last year, and I hear that Messrs. Smith, Kennedy, and Co. have purchased one-third share in the monopoly for this year. About 6,000 piculs of this article are annually produced in this neighbourhood, and as the monopoly for even one year ensures the speedy acquisition of a moderate fortune, it is eagerly sought after, and often, I fear, by unfair means.

I do not think the camphor monopoly is openly recognized by the Imperial Government, and should like advice from your Excellency on this head. It is at present well understood that the Taoutae does claim to himself the right, and lets out the privilege to Chinese on payment of large sums of money, who are then empowered to use the monopolist's seal; and any contracts entered into with foreigners not stamped with the authority of the seal are not acknowledged. As an instance of the want of such authority, I must bring to your Excellency's notice certain contracts entered into by the master of the schooner "Wild Wave," on account of Jardine, Matheson, and Co., with a Chinese at Taiwan-foo. The camphor was delivered on various parts of this coast from fifteen to twenty miles south of this port, off each of which the schooner was to heave-to and receive her stipulated cargo. On one occasion, however, when the schooner had hove-to off a place called Oolang, and sent her boat ashore, a gale came on, and she had to run, to avoid being cast ashore. The boat was upset, and some of the crew drowned; the rest, who managed to escape, were seized, on their landing, by mandarin soldiers, and beaten, but afterwards released. The camphor, however, was all seized by orders of the Tamsuy Ting, and the huts in which it was stored burnt. Captain Sullivan presented to me a bill for 7,000 odd dollars for damages against the Tamsuy Ting, but this functionary, on referring to the matter, said he could not but look upon the destruction of the property as just, because the shipment of camphor without an authorized chop, and at a point of the Formosan coast to which foreign vessels had no right to resort, could not be looked on as otherwise than smuggling. I was at Taiwan-foo when this affair took place, and I have told Captain Sullivan that I cannot take steps for the recovery of his damages until Jardine, Matheson, and Co. have referred the matter to your Excellency.

I will inquire more into the camphor trade, and see if some arrangement cannot be made with the mandarins which will throw open the purchase of camphor to any and all who wish to buy the article, without dread of the evil antagonism of monopoly. I will then report progress, but I hope that, meanwhile, your Excellency will advise me of your views on the subject.

Camphor Wood.—Under this head may be comprised all kinds of timber, of which there are many varieties in this richly-wooded island. Several kinds acquire

a large growth, while others are fine-grained, and would serve well for veneering purposes.

The Chinese import trade is at present carried on chiefly with the ports of Ningpo, Foo-chow, Chin-chew, and Amoy, and the articles consist mainly of Chinese produce and manufactures.

Opium is largely consumed by the Chinese colonists, as well as by the aborigines, but the latter are only able to procure the refuse of the pipe from their cunning celestial neighbours. About 400 chests of this drug, I learn, annually find a channel into the country through Kelung and this port, and a good business may eventually be done in this article here if the produce of the country be taken in barter for the drug. Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co. have a receiving-ship here, but they have hitherto done little, owing to their insisting on cash returns for their sales. It cannot be expected that there should be so much money in a scattered Colony like that of Formosa. It will be incumbent on the merchant either to take produce in barter or to give long credit, as is done at Takow. It is my opinion that one or two merchants here, with moderate capital, and ready to engage in every chance of speculation that the place affords, would speedily enrich themselves, and I am therefore not a little astonished that no inquirers have yet appeared. Some may, however, shortly come, and I trust the next Trade Report your Excellency may receive from this port will show that a brisk trade has been commenced at this place, and that I was fully justified in removing my establishment so hastily from Taiwan-foo to Tamsuy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT SWINHOE.

No. 36.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received October 2.)

My Lord,

Peking, July 2, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch from Mr. Gingell, Her Majesty's Consul at Hankow, and of my reply, on a recent outrage committed on a party of foreigners at Woo-chang-foo.

I trust your Lordship will approve of my insisting on Her Majesty's subjects acting with discretion, and of Her Majesty's Consuls evincing a disposition to consider the difficulties with which the Chinese authorities have to contend in dealing with the people. The more we avoid collisions at the new ports, the better.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

P.S.—I have the honour to inclose copy of a despatch to Mr. Forrest, on the line of conduct to be observed by him at Kiu-kiang.

F. W. A. B.

Inclosure 1 in No. 36.

Consul Gingell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Hankow, May 22, 1862.

THE inclosed copy of letter addressed to me will furnish particulars of an assault upon a party of British subjects, while visiting the Wu-chang city on the 14th of May.

A party of Americans, having two ladies among the number, were similarly attacked on the 10th instant, and driven out of the city; the ladies on that occasion having their ornaments, as I am informed, taken from them, and other indignities offered to their persons.

Whatever insolence and violence foreigners may have been subjected to on the Hankow side, it has been constantly remarked with what freedom from annoyance every individual has hitherto visited the Wu-chang city. And this was particularly mentioned to the Viceroy on the occasion of Lieutenant Poole's visit to him on the 8th instant.

Her Majesty's gun-boat "Havoc" left this port for Kiu-kiang on the morning of the 10th, and the attack upon the first party which entered the city, following

immediately after her departure, is, I conceive, highly significant. It is probable the mandarins have been instrumental in secretly intimating to the people to make a demonstration of their dislike to foreigners visiting Wu-chang. The Chinese Superintendent of Trade, however, addressed me a note immediately after the occurrence, and affirmed that the attack was made by strangers who were staying in the city during the continuance of the examinations, and he requested me to deter the merchants and others from going into the city until the examinations were over. He was informed by me, in reply, that British subjects under Treaty were allowed to visit any places they pleased, and that the Chinese authorities were at all times bound to afford them the fullest protection, and that I could not, therefore, interdict them from visiting Wu-chang city.

As soon as the matter was reported to me, I at once brought it to the notice of the Viceroy, and required the punishment of the aggressors; and his Excellency was also requested to adopt means for preventing a repetition of such outrages, but as yet no reply has been received to my appeal.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. R. GINGELL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 36.

Messrs. Dixon, Vincent, &c., to Consul Gingell.

Sir,

Hankow, May 15, 1862.

WE would respectfully bring to your notice an unprovoked attack made upon us yesterday at Wu-chang by a crowd of people belonging to that place. We had entered by the Han-yang Gate, accompanied by Mr. Dick, of the Imperial Customs, with the intention of visiting the curiosity shops, and viewing the country from the ridge that intersects the city. Having accomplished the first object of our visit, in which we were not only unmolested, but treated with civility, we mounted the hill, and seeing some military review or examination going on in the parade-ground, passed down towards it. As a large crowd was assembled round the competitors, we entered the pavilion in which the Prefect was seated, stationing ourselves in rear of his attendants, who received us with courtesy, but we had only been there a few minutes when a rush was made in the direction of the pavilion by the crowd, who, with loud cries, poured a shower of brickbats into the buildings. The Prefect and his officers remonstrated with the mob without effect; and as they were evidently unable to afford us protection, we retreated up the hill and along its top, pursued by some hundred of Chinese, and under a shower of stones, by which several of us were bruised, though fortunately not severely hurt. The crowd, still throwing brickbats, followed us until within a hundred yards of the Han-yang Gate.

We would also beg to assure you that the attack was entirely unprovoked on our part, we having neither by word or action offered the slightest offence to any one, nor did we offer any but a passive resistance even when thus savagely assaulted. But we would at the same time bear testimony to the gallant behaviour of our guard of four soldiers, who, though unarmed, never left us, but afforded us all the protection within their power.

Were this simply a personal matter, we should forbear to intrude it on your time and notice, but fear that in the absence of a remonstrance from you to the proper authorities other unoffending British subjects may be subjected to similar ill-treatment.

We have, &c.
(Signed) AND. S. DIXON.
EDWARD VINCENT.
F. RYRIE.
D. LAPRAIK.
R. E. BAKER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 36.

*Mr. Bruce to Consul Gingell.**Peking, July 2, 1862.*

Sir,

WITH reference to the assault reported by you on the party who visited Wu-chang-foo, I have to observe that although the Treaty does confer the right on Her Majesty's subjects of going freely about, it was not intended to relieve them from the exercise of discretion.

It appears that the party was treated with civility in the city itself, and that they then ascended the hill, where some sort of examination was going on, and took upon themselves, without invitation, to enter the pavilion in which the Prefect was presiding. This was not a very courteous or proper proceeding, and certainly does not come within the scope of the facilities provided by the Treaty. They were then attacked by the crowd, and fortunately escaped without serious injury.

I am sorry to see your insinuation that the attack was secretly prompted by the authorities. The facts stated do not seem to warrant it: the Prefect and his attendants did what they could, and the Chinese soldiers, as the sufferers very creditably admit, behaved well. And further, they were not molested in the town, whence it appears the American party had shortly before been driven out.

I see no reason to doubt that the cause stated by the Mandarins is the real one. It is well known to every one in China that the authorities dread the examination periods, on account of the crowds of strangers who attend, and of the feeble means at their disposal to prevent the disorders to which they give rise. They are attended by a class who are generally ill-disposed to foreigners, and who are no doubt at present irritated by the proceedings which have led to the late outbreak against Roman Catholic missionaries.

I therefore think that it would be well, during the examinations, to advise Her Majesty's subjects to avoid these crowds, for it is very difficult to obtain redress for such outrages; and the gratification of mere curiosity, and the assumption that there may be a scheme to curtail ultimately the rights of foreigners, do not warrant us in disregarding a warning that, in China, is not *prima facie* unreasonable. For the maintenance of proper relations depends on meeting the authorities in a spirit of compromise when what they propose, in view of the state of the country, is reasonable, and in resisting them, firmly but temperately, when it is not.

I am, &c.

(Signed) **FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.**

Inclosure 4 in No. 36.

*Mr. Bruce to Mr. Forrest.**Peking, July 2, 1862.*

Sir,

IN reply to your despatch I have to state that I fully approve the arrangements made by you with reference to the British concession at Kiu-kiang.

I am very glad to receive so satisfactory an account of your port. Make it a rule to cultivate a good understanding with the authorities and people, and impress the necessity of pursuing the same course on the British community.

Where there are difficulties that you are unable to overcome, you must refer the case, after exhausting all amicable means, to Peking; but avoid, as much as possible, menace. As to calling in the aid of force, Her Majesty's Government has reiterated its instructions that Her Majesty's Consuls are not to appeal to it, except in cases where the lives of Her Majesty's subjects are threatened or their property endangered by riots, &c. Abuse of authority by the Chinese, or delay in doing what we are entitled to demand, are not sufficient causes to warrant violent measures.

The effort is now to be made to settle such disputed questions through the intervention of the Imperial authority, and although the process may at first be slow and imperfect, it must be persevered in.

I am, &c.

(Signed) **FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.**

No. 37.

Consul Medhurst to Earl Russell.—(Received October 2.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, August 2, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch addressed by me on the 31st ultimo to Mr. Bruce.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure in No. 37.

Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Shanghai, July 31, 1862.

MY despatch dated the 18th instant reported the probable re-capture by the Imperialists of Kiu-shan-wei. It fell into their possession that same day, and its fall was immediately followed by that of the neighbouring town of Ping-hoo, not far from Chapoo.

Nanchian has not been evacuated as yet by our forces.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

No. 38.

Sir E. Lugard to Mr. Hammond.—(Received October 7.)

Sir,

War Office, October 6, 1862.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir George Lewis to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Russell, the inclosed copy of a despatch, dated 3rd August, from the officer commanding the troops in China, reporting on the state of affairs at Shanghai.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD LUGARD.

Inclosure in No. 38.

Brigadier-General Staveley to Sir G. C. Lewis.

Sir,

Head-Quarters, Shanghai, August 3, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your information, that the neighbourhood of Shanghai continues free from rebel incursions.

Colonel Ward, of the Imperial Service, having taken possession of the town of Kiu-shan-wei, on the Poo-tung side of the Woosung River, or Kiu-tze, as it is marked on the plan I inclosed in a former letter, enables me to withdraw the garrison I had placed in Najaor on that side of the river.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. STAVELEY.

No. 39.

Earl Russell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 7, 1862.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd of July last, inclosing a correspondence with Her Majesty's Consul at Hankow, relative to an outrage recently committed on a party of foreigners at Woo-chang-foo; and I have to state to you that Her Majesty's Government entirely concur in your views with regard to the discretion to be observed by British subjects who avail themselves of the facilities provided by Treaty for visiting the Chinese cities, and they also approve the instructions which you have addressed to Mr. Forrest with reference to the line of conduct to be observed by him at Kiu-kiang.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 40.

Earl Russell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 7, 1862.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 8th of July last, I have to state to you that Her Majesty's Government concur in your views with regard to the conduct of Mr. Gingell in burning the junk which was employed in carrying "braves" to Hankow, and in your observations as to the selection of the site for the location of the British community at that place; and I consider it expedient that you should address instructions in conformity with your opinions to Her Majesty's Consuls in China for their guidance under similar circumstances.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 41.

Consul Robertson to Mr. Hammond.—(Received October 15.)

(Extract.)

Canton, August 26, 1862.

I AM not one of those who say all is barren in China; I believe there is a future, and a bright one before her, if she is properly directed. I believe, too, that the current of Chinese ideas is setting towards European civilization, and I think the strides already made are of more importance than usually considered. The employment of the foreign element in the collection of the revenue, the construction of a steam gun-boat fleet to be placed under a distinguished British officer, the drilling of troops on the European model, the gradual subversion of the exclusive feeling, and other points I could mention, are all healthy signs. What we have to do is not to expect too much at once; give the country time, but keep it up to the mark. I see no possible reason why a moral reform in the Government Departments should not take place. The people themselves are honest and industrious, and from them the greater portion of their rulers are recruited. It would be strange that when the stock is fairly sound, the shoots of the tree should be rotten irretrievably; and it is not so—they are only blighted, and the time, I hope, is not far distant when they will learn that their preservation depends on removing the rust, and it will be done.

The interests of humanity, independent of our large commercial ones, dictate the course to be followed; let us help China to preserve her integrity, but let us teach her also that much depends upon herself.

No. 42.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received October 20.)

(Extract.)

Peking, July 14, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a despatch from Brigadier-General Staveley, calling attention to the large smuggling trade carried on in arms and ammunition.

An English vessel was seized at Ningpo with a full cargo of this description of goods, and a lorch, with two or three Englishmen on board, has since that time been taken in the act of selling arms to the insurgents at a point on the Yang-tze River, a little above Woo-sung. She belonged to an Anglo-American house, but I have not heard where she had taken her cargo on board; probably she cleared from Hong Kong.

It is difficult to estimate the encouragement given to piracy and brigandage by land and water, owing to the unchecked trade in arms and ammunition which is carried on at Hong Kong and Singapore. I was told, four years ago, that, on a rough calculation, 3,000 cannon, of different sizes, had been sold at Singapore alone in a year; and I can state, from my own observation, that artillery and small arms are exhibited in all the marine stores. It may be safely assumed that five-sixths of the number sold, whatever it may be, are destined to arm those brigands and pirates who make war on industry and commerce, and against whom Her Majesty's naval forces are called upon by the mercantile communities, in these Eastern Seas, to act.

I believe the Dutch, Spaniards, and Portuguese prohibit dealing in these articles, and were the trade stopped at Hong Kong and Singapore a great service would be rendered to the cause of humanity and legitimate commerce. Piratical junks could not arm themselves in our waters, and the sort of retail trade practised along the coast of China, by small vessels that clear out from the English settlements, could not be carried on by sea-going vessels. I do not think that any one would venture to defend publicly this traffic if its consequences were known.

Inclosure in No. 42.

Brigadier-General Staveley to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.)

Head Quarters, Shanghai, June 16, 1862.

I WISH to call your attention to the large quantities of muskets and ammunition which are being supplied by Europeans and others to the rebels. I have ascertained from deserters that 10 per cent. of the rebels are at present armed with muskets or rifles. In another year a much larger per-centage may be expected to be so armed.

No. 43.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received October 20.)

My Lord,

Peking, July 18, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch from Mr. Gingell, Her Majesty's Consul at Hankow, detailing the steps taken by him, in consequence of the levy of an extra charge by the officials of Hoonan on teas bought by British subjects in the interior for shipment at Hankow.

I also inclose copies of two despatches, the one disapproving of the seizure of war-junks and of a Custom-house officer, as a guarantee against repetition of these acts; and the other, directing Mr. Gingell to inform Her Majesty's subjects that their proper course to pursue is to pay these illegal charges under protest.

I am particularly anxious to submit this latter point to your Lordship, for if the principle laid down meets with approbation, it will in a great measure prevent claims founded on irregular acts of provincial authorities becoming a source of gain to unscrupulous traders—a system which flourished luxuriantly in Egypt, to the great detriment of the national reputation of European States.

The complaints forwarded from Hankow are simply an illustration of the truth that in countries like China, where the principles of administration differ entirely from those practised by us, the conclusion of a Treaty is the commencement, and not the termination, of difficulties. The ill-will, ignorance, and necessities of local authorities have to be encountered, and time, patience, and tact, are required to overcome them. Foreign merchants expect to obtain the same facilities at Hankow as, for instance, at Shanghai, forgetting that twenty years have elapsed since our intercourse with the latter place began, and they apply to the Consul for naval assistance, as the readiest and most effectual means of overcoming opposition. The Chinese Government relies so little on force in its internal administration that the appearance of a single gun-boat is generally enough to effect the object peaceably; but there is no certainty that such will always be the case, and at all events the proceeding is not very palatable, and probably leads to retaliation in the shape of petty annoyances and insults offered by the populace to foreigners.

Your Lordship will see by the inclosed despatch from the Prince of Kung, that another release of laden junks and seizure of war-boats has been effected near Nanking, the circumstances of which have not been reported to me. These acts are not easy to justify, and it is difficult to say how far they may put to inconvenience Tsung Kwo-fan, in his operations on the river against the insurgents. My reply is, that these acts are rendered necessary by the habitual disregard of Treaty rights, and the little attention paid to the Prince of Kung's orders on this subject. At the same time, I have written both to the Consuls and to Sir James Hope to put a stop to these proceedings, as this remedy is more objectionable than the evil complained of.

A considerable contraband trade is springing up on the Yang-tze River, in salt;

and at one place, about fifteen miles above Chin-kiang, a settlement is growing up, formed of needy and desperate Western men, who undertake to convoy vessels engaged in it. The Chinese allow these vessels to pass, but have established Customs stations to exact duty on the articles. The war-junks attached to these stations are, no doubt, those whose acts are complained of. The breach of Treaty committed by the foreigners engaging in this traffic leads to breaches of Treaty being committed by Chinese; and while I complain of these abusive acts, the Chinese Government is remonstrating against the illegal proceedings of foreigners on the Yang-tze River.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 43.

Consul Gingell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Hankow, June 23, 1862.

MESSRS. TURNER AND CO. complained to me on the 28th May of the stoppage of a chop of tea at a Custom-house about 160 *li* from Hankow, Hoo-peh province, and that a duty of 4 mace a chest of 75 catties had been demanded in excess of the transit duty which had already been levied in the Hoo-nan province. This payment had been tendered in sycee, but the officer in charge of the barrier alleged the silver was not of sufficient pureness, and refused to allow the teas to pass or to take the silver at a discount.

A messenger was then despatched from Hankow with sycee of the required pureness, but for some reason or other the teas were still detained, and on the 30th I was again addressed by Messrs. Turner and Co.'s agent, stating that in consequence of the non-arrival of the tea he had been compelled to purchase other teas in the market in lieu of those detained, and that he had sustained a positive and immediate loss of 14,500 taels, which he begged may be recovered from the Chinese officials.

I had on his first complaint addressed a letter to the Superintendent of Customs, telling him the officers would be held responsible for the detention and for the illegal exaction on these teas; and as up to the 30th I had received no reply, and there appeared no probability of the boats being released, I requested Lieutenant Poole, of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Havoc," to proceed to the barrier where they were detained and effect their liberation.

But before the departure of the "Havoc" from the harbour, the boats containing the teas arrived.

On these teas an excess of 618·75 taels had been paid.

Messrs. Dent and Co.'s agent on the 30th May brought to me "lekin" receipts exhibiting an excess in transit duty of 940 taels; this excess I claimed from the Superintendent of Customs, a copy of whose reply is inclosed. On the 13th a further claim for 462·40 taels paid in excess was made again by the same firm; and on the 11th and 12th June, Messrs. Gibb and Livingstone's agent and Messrs. Gilman's agent made similar complaints of excess charges of 541·60 and 467·20 taels respectively.

For all these charges "lekin" receipts had been granted, and the papers were handed in to me by the several complainants.

On the 10th June Messrs. Dent and Co.'s agent reported the stoppage of six boats containing teas at two barriers, Peh-how-kow and Tan-kow, on which the extra charge of 4 mace per chest was demanded. Certificates of the proper amount of transit duty having been paid on the teas in the Hoo-nan province were produced to me, and Mr. Evans further stated that he had given positive orders to the Chinese in charge of the teas on no account to pay the excess demanded, and as the officer of the station had declared that these boats should not be allowed to pass unless under this payment, there appeared but little probability of the teas reaching Hankow.

I had on so many occasions already addressed in vain both the Viceroy and the Superintendent of Customs on this same subject, that I resolved to place the matter in Lieutenant Poole's hands, and to request him to take such steps in the liberation of the boats as would more effectually impress the authorities of this port with the necessity of adhering strictly to the Tariff rules. Lieutenant Poole accordingly left this port on the 11th, and returned on the evening of the 14th, having effected the release of the teas. Copy of his letter reporting his proceedings is inclosed.

Immediately on his arrival I sent a message to the Superintendent of Customs, requesting he would take charge of the Chinese brought down, which he did the same evening; and on Monday, the 16th, I addressed a letter to the Viceroy, of which the inclosed is a copy. On the eve of its dispatch a "Wei-yuen" visited the Consulate, and handed me a private note from the Viceroy, asking me to give up the boats, as orders had been issued not to levy the excess in future, and that thus the necessity of public documents on either side in reference to the subject would be dispensed with. The officer was informed that the Viceroy had been written to officially, and that when his official reply to that communication—promising the irregular and illegal acts should no longer be allowed—was received, the boats would be given up. No answer to my letter was received until the evening of the 21st, on which day the boats were handed over. Copy and translation of this, as well as of the Viceroy's private note, inclosed.

Since the opening of the port, the 7th Rule attached to the Tariff has been entirely set aside by the authorities. Exemption certificates for goods to be conveyed into the interior they have virtually refused to issue, and in case of exports the officers in charge of barriers have in many instances objected to recognize produce as being foreign-owned, although reported so by the person in charge; and thus the merchants have been subjected to detention and illegal exactions.

It appears that the Lieutenant-Governor of Hoonan has determined upon levying transit dues allowed by Treaty on all produce passing through his province, irrespective of the authorities of Hoo-peh. On goods arriving in the latter province, notwithstanding the transit duty has been already paid and a certificate to that effect given, a further demand is again made at the several barriers the produce may have to pass on its way to Hankow.

The Local Governments are thus contending each for its own particular levy, but the Hoonan requires the allowed transit-duty, while the Hoopeh claims an illegal charge.

About twelve hours after the gun-boat had left this harbour, Ching, Superintendent of Customs, paid me a late visit, and after a variety of futile excuses, the chief of which was that these levies are made under the old regulations, and that nothing had ever been definitely settled in reference to collection of duties at Hankow, he informed me that orders had that day been sent off to the different officers in charge of barriers to discontinue these levies; and he requested that I would send off a messenger and call back the gun-boat. I informed him I had repeatedly addressed communications to the Viceroy and other authorities, begging that these irregularities may be put a stop to, and I showed him the copy of Prince Kung's despatch to the Viceroy, where orders were given that not a fraction more than the duties allowed by Tariff were to be taken; and I pointed out to him that these orders had met with no attention, and that as my own communications were equally disregarded, and as teas were still stopped up the country for illegal duties, my last resource had been to place the matter in the hands of Her Majesty's senior naval officer, who had gone up for the express purpose of releasing the boats so detained; and I added, it was to be regretted that the orders just given had not been issued at a much earlier date, bound as the authorities were to carry out the rules attached to the Tariff, whether duties were or were not received at Hankow.

To a question put by myself, when the amounts as ordered by Prince Kung would be refunded to Messrs. Dent and Co. and Messrs. Dudley and Co., he remarked that the sum would be paid back when duties were collected at Hankow.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. RAYMOND GINGELL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 43.

Ching, Superintendent of Customs, to Consul Gingell,

(Translation.)

June 10, 1862.

ON the 2nd instant, I received your letter, requesting me to refund at once excess of duty and "lekin" paid by Messrs. Dent & Co., at Neë-kea-she, on teas bought by them and brought to Hankow.

For this excess there are reasons which ought to be separately explained, and not all taken as one whole.

The duties to be received at the Custom-house not having been determined, I

have not issued transit reports and certificates, and I have long ago requested you to wait a month or two till the question was settled.

The authorities of Hoonan have addressed the throne praying that "lekin" may be levied in lieu of transit duty, and a note to that effect has been made on the receipts, as you will see on examination.

The Imperial will has left this matter to the Viceroy's deliberation, and although it has not yet been definitely settled, the amounts do not differ very much from that payable by transit duties.

With regard to the "lekin" paid at Neë-kea-she, that paid in cash was a levy made on the tea-growers, as is plainly stated on the receipt, and was paid by the hong into the office for them. May I request you to examine the receipts, when you will see that the payment has no connection with the foreign merchant?

Indeed, this document should be held by the tea-grower, and I do not know why it passed into Messrs. Dent and Co.'s hands. I would request you to address the Viceroy that he may order inquiry by having this fact verified, and thus preventing future complications.

But Faohou is a barrier in Hoopoh, and as the duties have not been arranged, each province collects its own according to the regulations formerly existing. Taking both provinces together, as regards the merchant the payment is in excess, but as regards the barrier it is still adhering to the old regulations received.

This matter cannot be discussed with your countrymen, and I have already reported it to the Viceroy, who orders to wait until the payment of Tariff duties at the Kiang-han Custom-house shall have been arranged, and there is no fear that this matter will then remain without settlement.

Your request for refund I really cannot now accede to, but it is right that I should reply to your letter, and return you the nine "lekin" receipts.

Tung Chih, 1st year, 5th moon, 14th day.

Inclosure 3 in No. 43.

Lieutenant Poole to Consul Gingell.

Sir,

"Havoc," Hankow, June 14, 1862.

WITH reference to your letter of the 10th instant, I have the honour to inform you that I have returned from Tan-kau, having released Messrs. Dent and Co.'s teas at that place, also 660 chests detained by the Customs authorities at Lian-lieu-kia, belonging to the same firm.

I arrived at Tan-kau on the evening of the 12th instant. I there seized all the mandarin and war-junks, as also the officer in charge of the Custom-house. I have brought him, as also the gun-boats and guns named in the margin,* with me to Hankow.

On the 13th I stopped at Lian-lieu-kia, and released the boats containing Messrs. Dent and Co.'s teas.

The war-boats had all been taken about three miles up a creek. I went up in our boats and seized them. They had been scuttled by the crews, and some of their guns were thrown overboard. I was obliged to leave one gun-boat behind, as she had such a large hole in her; the remainder, as stated in the margin,† I raised, and have brought with me to Hankow.

‡ I sent, on arrival at this place, to the mandarin's, informing him that I would call on him; but when I went on shore in the evening he was nowhere to be found. The people told me he had gone, that day, to Hankow. I have every reason to believe that he left after my arrival.

§ One of the boats seized at this place got adrift during the night, and this morning I found her at Pei-chow, scuttled, on shore, with everything taken out of her. There was a war-boat close to her, and, as I observed some of their men about her, I am sure that it was these men who had stripped her; I have therefore seized their boat, which I have brought to Hankow.¶

Besides the Custom-house officer, I have five men who were taken in the different junks.§ I will be glad if you will make arrangements to take these men out of the ship as soon as possible.

* 4 gun-boats, 16 guns.

† 3 gun-boats (one of these boats lost on the way down river), 2 guns.

‡ 1 gun-boat, 2 guns.

§ Prisoners, 5; not including Customs officer.

I would suggest to you that we retain possession of the war-boats and guns* until some assurance is given that no more than the proper amount of duties be charged on goods belonging to British merchants coming down the river.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. POOLE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 43.

Consul Gingell to Kwan, Governor-General of Hoo-kwang.

Sir, Hankow, June 16, 1862.
THE 7th Rule of the Tariff attached to the Treaty of Tien-tsin states [quoted at length].

Now I find that this Rule has again and again been disregarded by the authorities in charge of barriers up the river, and that I have repeatedly addressed the Superintendent of Customs at Hankow, calling upon him to allow none but the the Tariff-rate of duties to be levied; but in spite of my remonstrances the "lekin" duty has been levied, transit-certificates have been refused, and, in many instances, tea and other produce detained at barriers, to the great inconvenience and loss of the British merchants.

Last year Messrs. Dudley and Co. had teas stopped, and they were made to pay an excess of 285 taels. Messrs. Dent and Co. also paid an excess of 357 taels on one occasion, and on another, in the eighth month of last year, at Tao-kow, 499 taels, 9 mace, and 5 candarine. These facts were, at the time, communicated to the then Taoutae Chang, and refund of the excess required, as is recorded.

The first two instances were reported to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking, by whom they were brought to the notice of the Imperial Foreign Office, and subsequent orders were given to your Excellency to recover these amounts paid in excess and hand them over to me. A copy of the despatch to your address on this subject was inclosed to me from Peking, and the original letter I delivered to you in the beginning of the 3rd moon of this year, as is recorded. This letter required that none but Tariff-rates should be levied; and it further directed the punishment of the Wei-yuens in charge of these several barriers where the excessive charges had been levied.

On the 5th May of this year I addressed your Excellency, and requested that orders might be sent to the officials in charge of the several barriers directing them to collect the Tariff-rate, and not the "lekin," as the tea-season was approaching and the British merchants had sent persons into the interior to purchase and bring down teas.

On the 30th May Turner and Co. addressed me, complaining that two boats of tea had been stopt at Liao-lin-kea, and that he had paid more than 500 taels excess of duty.

Messrs. Dent and Co. also reported having been obliged to pay an excess of 484 taels, 456 taels, and 462.4 taels, on three chops of tea.

On the 11th June Messrs. Gibb, Livingston and Co. reported having paid 293.6 taels and 248 taels excess on two chops of tea.

Messrs. Gilman and Co. also reported having to pay 467.2 taels in excess. It would therefore appear that your Excellency never issued instructions, or else that those instructions have never been attended to.

On the 10th June Messrs. Dent and Co. reported that six boats containing tea were stopped at Tao-kow and Pe-ho-kow, and 4 mace per chest demanded over and above the Tariff rate, which sum they had refused to pay, and, consequently, the teas were detained. As my reiterated requests have failed to effect any change in this illegal mode of conducting foreign trade, I requested the commander of Her Majesty's gun-boat to proceed to Tao-kow and Pe-ho-kow, and release these teas; and on the 11th instant he started, returning on the 14th, having seized the Wei-yuen belonging to the Tao-kow barrier, who had detained the teas, as also seven war-boats, together with twenty guns and five Chinese belonging to some of the boats. These he brought down to Han-kow, and the Wei-yuen with the five Chinese were handed over on the 14th instant to a deputy of Ching Taoutae, but the boats and guns will be detained until I learn from your Excellency that orders are issued that hereafter British merchants shall not be called upon to pay any excess over and above the Tariff rate, and that the excess already paid shall be refunded.

* Total: gun-boats, 7 guns, 20; prisoners, 6 in number.

It remains with your Excellency to explain why the directions in Prince Kung's despatch have not been carried out (a copy of which I append). I am desirous that the Treaty shall be strictly followed, and if your Excellency had given strict injunctions to your several subordinates to act in accordance thereto, much trouble and difficulty would have been saved.

Awaiting your reply, &c.

(Signed)

W. RAYMOND GINGELL.

Inclosure 5 in No 43.

Kwan, Governor-General of Hoo-kwang, to Consul Gingell.

(Translation.)

June 20, 1862.

ON the 14th instant, the General Lekin Board transmitted me the following petition of the officer in charge of the barrier at Tao-kow:—

“Suddenly at noon, on the 12th instant, a British vessel of war arrived at the barrier with Lieutenant Poole and Mr. King. With their men they seized gun-boats, a long dragon, and a fast crab (two denominations of boats), together with money and other articles, as also Ma the officer, four braves, and several guns.”

Also the petition of the officer of the Pe-ho-kow barrier at Siao-leu-kea, that on the 13th, at noon, a British vessel of war suddenly arrived at the barrier, and seized three gun-boats, six guns, and one preventive police-boat anchored at Pai-chow, with one man in her.

Subsequently, Ching Taoutae, of the Kiang-han Custom-house, reported to me at an interview that you had delivered into his care the officer and others, but had not yet given up the gun-boats, and that your motive for so doing was that some Hoonan tea, having already paid a transit duty in Hoonan, a further levy was still made in Hoopeh of 4 mace per chest. I was much surprised on hearing this. In your despatch to me, I note that you argue on the 7th Tariff Rule, the Wei-yuen's breach of the same in detaining the tea, the excess paid, and Ching Taoutae's refusal to grant transit certificates. Now, the Tariff rules were drawn up previous to the trade on the Yang-tze; and last year, because trade on the Yang-tze could not be carried on in the same way as at the maritime ports, a set of Yang-tze Trade Regulations were specially drawn up. If in everything the Treaty should be religiously observed, why, since a custom house has been established at Hankow, have not export and import tariff duties been yet received here? The matter is quite plain and intelligible.

I have never said that the Kiang-han-kuan Custom-house should not receive transit duty; and Ching Taoutae has already replied to you, saying that the question of duties here was not arranged, and requesting you to wait a little till Mr. Hart, sent here by Prince Kung, shall have settled, as it is certain he will, the matter definitively; and neither thus did Ching Taoutae say he would not receive transit duty.

Tea brought here from Yang-lew-tung, in Hoo-peh, pays a contribution of 9 mace a chest, and no more is made at other places; this is less than the transit duty. That brought from Nu-kea-she, in Hoonan, according to the Imperial assent prayed for by Mao Footae, of Hoonan, pays a “lekin” in lieu of a transit duty. Hoonan not being a port, the duties it receives cannot be called “transit,” and this confusion of the regulations originates in Hoonan. I have on this subject been instructed by His Majesty to consider and arrange the question; but the arrangements not having been definitely made, Tao-kow and Pe-ho-kow have, according to their old, and as yet unrepealed orders, made their levy of 4 mace per chest. Hearing now that your merchants do not consent to this levy, I have already this month circulated general orders to cease from levying on teas of these two provinces the slightest excess according to the native duties and subscriptions. The excess already paid by the 4 mace per chest of course ought to be refunded; and when there are duties to be paid to the Custom-house, there is no objection to the refund being made by a deduction from the duties; but I can only recognize refunds stated in your letter and that of Messrs. Dent and Co., notified to the Custom-house on a former occasion. Others in addition to these cannot be allowed, as causing endless complications,

With regard to the cases last year of Messrs. Dent and Co. and Dudley and Co., they occurred before a Custom-house was established, and before the date of

the Yang-tze Trade Regulations ; besides which the excess was received in Hoonan, and consequently cannot affect the Superintendent of Customs here.

Although I received a letter from the Foreign Office, yet the provinces are permitted to address (that office) direct, and I have already sent a reply explaining the nature of the case that that office may reply to the British Minister. In this matter you (I?) ought to listen to the orders given by the authorities away from the capital, and (I) am not able at this time to act upon my own responsibility.

You say in your letter you seek nothing but strict observance of the Treaty, and that the excess levied at every barrier interferes with the Treaty ; but is it in accordance with Treaty that Mr. Poole and Mr. King should assault the barrier, seizing and carrying off boats and guns from Tao-kow, Pe-ho-kow, and Pai-chow, together with money, articles, an officer, and other people?

Whether you restore the guns and boats or not you yourself will judge and decide.

Tung Chih, 1st year, 5th moon, 24th day.

Inclosure 6 in No. 43.

Kwan, Governor-General of Hoo-kwang, to Consul Gingell.

(Translation.)

June 16, 1862.

THE reason why a levy of 4 mace "lekin" per chest was made at Tao-kow on Hoonan teas was, that the officer had not yet received a letter stating that transit duty had already been collected in Hoonan. Hearing this I at once directed the General Lekin Board to direct all the barriers to cease collecting the 4 mace, but my letter did not arrive at the Board till the next day, and now there will be no further levy made on Hoonan tea other than the transit duty only ; the boats must produce their receipts for inspection at the barriers as proof that they are not those of scheming natives endeavouring to creep in. Thus, henceforward, we shall have no suspicion one of the other, and I hope you will give up to me all the gun-boats, and there is no necessity for any despatches between the two Governments to be kept on record, as there is nothing glorious to boast of.

[The Viceroy next expresses anger at the Hoonan persecution of the Roman Catholics, and promises severe punishment of the acts.]

Inclosure 7 in No. 43.

Mr. Bruce to Consul Gingell.

Sir,

Peking, July 17, 1862.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 23rd ultimo, giving an account of the steps taken by yourself and Lieutenant Poole to put an end to exactions on teas brought down by Her Majesty's subjects from the interior.

As these measures have been executed, and have, I trust, put a stop to these exactions, I do not think it necessary to enter into a detailed examination of these proceedings ; but I think it right to state that I do not approve, whatever immediate advantage may be derived from such acts of violence, of the seizure of war-junks, and of the carrying off as prisoner the Wei-yuen of the barrier Custom-house.

Had any collision taken place, and had loss of life ensued, the proceeding could not have been justified.

I have stated in a previous despatch the only circumstances under which Her Majesty's Consuls are justified in calling on Her Majesty's naval forces for material assistance, viz., where life or property are endangered by violence. But a surcharge of duties does not justify its employment. Such demands, if illegal, ought to be paid under protest, and sooner or later the amounts will be recovered. There is no power lodged in the hands of Her Majesty's Agents in this country to redress such violation of Treaty by force, and when you are called upon to employ it, in such cases you will refuse to do so.

The important result to be gained by the establishment of direct relations with the Government of Peking is the avoidance of local acts of violence, which produce bad blood on both sides, and have been most prejudicial to general tranquillity by weakening the authority of the Chinese Government in the eyes of its people. Time will elapse before the new system will work smoothly and efficiently ; but, however

much you may be urged by local influences, you must not go beyond pacific efforts to remedy the abuses complained of. You are perfectly shielded from responsibility by my instructions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) **FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.**

Inclosure 8 in No. 43.

Mr. Bruce to Consul Gingell.

(Extract.)

Peking, July 19, 1862.

I OBSERVE in one of the cases mentioned in your despatch of the 23rd ultimo, respecting the exaction of 4 mace additional per chest of tea, that one of the mercantile firms had given orders to its agent not to pay the charge.

As a matter of principle there can be no doubt that where there is a dispute between a Custom-house agent in the interior and a foreign trader, the former is the judge. It is to be assumed that the officer is acting under superior orders, and whether these orders be in accordance with Treaty or not, he has no power to vary them. The course of proceeding the trader ought to adopt in such a case is to pay under protest; and I wish you to understand that I will not take up claims for consequential damages, founded on detention, &c., when the goods might have been released, and these complications avoided, by a payment of the disputed charge under protest. Still less do I approve of vessels of war being sent to release them under such circumstances.

The transit-duty clause in the Treaty is, as you are aware, a great innovation on the principles of Chinese provincial administration. It is reasonable, therefore, to expect that at first the exercise of this privilege will meet with opposition; but with patience and perseverance the clause will be brought into operation, and Her Majesty's Agents are bound to see that the course pursued by Her Majesty's subjects in these cases is one that will confine claims to the refund of the excess of duty demanded, and not one which, in the hands of unscrupulous men, gives rise to the extravagant and colourable extortion, under pretext of consequential damages.

No. 44.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received October 20.)

My Lord,

Peking, July 24, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the reply of the Prince of Kung to my despatch on the conduct of the Chinese officials during the late proceedings which have, I trust, cleared the neighbourhood of Shanghae of the Tae-ping banditti.

The statement of the progress made by the Imperialists in the Yang-tze valley is correct, but it is clear that little is effected towards the suppression of rebellion unless the Government adopts means of defence sufficient to prevent the spoliation of provinces not hitherto touched. The flame would die out for want of fuel, were the Tae-pings confined to the country they occupy, and which has been reduced by them to an unproductive desert.

I shall forward to your Lordship, by next mail, copy of a note I am drawing up to the Prince on this subject; progress is very slow, but the gradual dropping of water makes a breach in the hardest rock.

I have, &c.
(Signed) **FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.**

Inclosure 1 in No. 44.

Mr. Bruce to the Prince of Kung.

Sir,

Peking, June 28, 1862.

I HAVE to lodge a very serious complaint against those who direct the operations of the Chinese soldiers at Shanghae.

Your Imperial Highness is aware that it had been agreed between them and the allied Commanders that the latter should re-capture the cities within a certain radius of Shanghae, and that the Chinese would furnish garrisons for the places so taken.

The Allied Powers performed their part; they re-took Kading, Tsing-poo, and other places, and having cleared that side of the river, crossed over to clear the Poo-tung peninsula, trusting to the Chinese to fulfil their part of the agreement.

Instead of confining themselves to the part assigned, the Chinese abandoned a strong position held by them, and marched forward some 7,000 or 8,000 men to attack a town called Tae-tsang [?] single-handed.

The result was what might be anticipated, as long as officers are so ignorant of war as to oppose men undisciplined and badly armed, to the attack of a large body of rebels who are wise enough to furnish their hands with better arms than those manufactured in China. They were suddenly attacked by the main body of the rebels, and utterly dispersed, and the allied forces were obliged to re-cross the rivers to save the garrisons from being taken by blockade.

Thus the fruit of the late successes has been almost entirely lost.

If your Imperial Highness sincerely wishes to act with us, you will institute an inquiry as to who is responsible for making this movement without the consent of the allies, and you will so deal with them as to deter others from following this example.

I have also to report that the Governor Le has only placed 300 men at the disposal of General Staveley to be drilled. I must state distinctly to your Imperial Highness that I see no proof in the conduct of the Shanghai authorities of a readiness to adopt the necessary means for effectually protecting that city. If the Imperial Government does not make sufficient efforts to justify me in stating to my Government that the retention of foreign troops in China will not be required for a lengthened period in order to preserve the Chinese towns from destruction, your Imperial Highness may depend on it that either they will be withdrawn or the revenue of the port will be taken and applied to the payment of the force required for its protection. No Government will for long go to the expense of holding places for a foreign Government which is unable or unwilling to hold them itself, particularly when at the same time I have to report that at New-chwang, Swatow, and Hankow the authorities act in an unfriendly spirit, and that I can obtain no redress when I complain of their acts.

I have, &c.

(Signed) **FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.**

Inclosure 2 in No. 44.

The Prince of Kung to Mr. Bruce.

(Translation.)

Peking, July 21, 1862.

THE Prince of Kung makes a communication in reply.

The Prince received a communication from the British Minister upon the 3rd of the moon (June) complaining that the good effects of the late successes at Shanghai had been neutralized by the act of some officer who had moved troops without applying to the allies to support him. His Excellency assumed that the Prince would not fail to direct the Government of Kiang-su to ascertain what officer it was whose rashness had led to the late reverse, and to punish him severely. The Governor Le, it was further stated, had detached but 300 men to learn foreign drill. His Excellency's great desire was that China should so improve in the employment of her own resources as to enable foreign troops to withdraw as soon as possible; and if, in consequence of the powerlessness of the Government forces there was a prospect of the British troops being detained in China *sine die*, one of two courses would have to be adopted,—either they would be removed from Shanghai, and the Chinese garrison would have to take care of itself, or they would be kept at Shanghai, but the Customs revenue, in that case, would be seized and applied to their maintenance.

His Highness has perused the despatch under acknowledgment with the greatest attention. He is quite satisfied that, although the British Minister is somewhat plain-spoken, his object, in the terms he employs, is to aid (China). As to the instruction of troops in foreign drill, the true reason why there has not been greater eagerness shown on this point, is that the expenses of the army are enormous, and that it was to be apprehended, if many were added to the present strength, that the supplies required to pay them might be stopped, and (the new measure) brought to a standstill. But, as regards the native army, on the other hand, there has been, for some months passed, an effort made to re-organize this,

wherever it is employed. Several successes have been achieved in consequence against the rebels, and to show that (the Chinese Government) by no means proposes to itself a policy of supineness (*lit.*, does not cherish the notion of looking and grazing), there will be no harm if His Highness enters somewhat minutely into detail.

In the 10th moon of last year, by the grace of His Imperial Majesty, the Prince had conferred on him the office of Prime Minister, and from that moment his mind has been night and day devoted to the consideration of means of furthering the public service in all its departments. He has shrunk from no toil in his labours, and the members of the civil and military administration, on the other hand, whether within the capital or in the provinces, have on their side bestirred themselves with a common purpose, determined to put down disorder and restore good government.

Looking back to the execution of those who had usurped the (supreme) authority, the dignity of the Administration has since that event been restored, and great improvement in its substance and form is daily more apparent.

In the upper valley of the great river, for example, the rebels have been in possession of various prefectural and district cities for near ten years. The Grand Secretary Tsêng, Governor-General of the two Kiangs, at the head of a stout force of Hu-kwang men,* has driven them down the valley far and wide. Since the recapture of Ngan-king, there have been re-taken, north of the river, Lu-chau, Han-shau, Ho-chau, Lai-ngan, Tien-chang, Luh-ho and Kiang-pu, and south of it Chih-chau, Tsing-yang, Tsau Hien, Fau-chang, Nan-ling, Tsing-teh, Shih-tai, Tai-hu, King-Hien; also (north of the river) Tung-ching Barrier, the market town of Yung-kia, the pass of Yü-ki, Lu-kiang and the eastern and western Liang-shan; together with Twan-shau and Hanting in the department of Ning-kwoh. The above cities and towns have been recaptured, and tranquillity is restored in them all alike; and at this moment a large force, naval and military, has reached Nanking, and is combined in operations against it. The rebels are in the utmost extremity. A victory cannot fail to be announced immediately.

Besides the above, the troops of King-twan, Governor-General of Fuh-kien and Cheh-kiang, and of Tso, Governor of Cheh-kiang, have together recovered Chang-shan and Kai-hwa in Kû-chau-Fu, Lui-ngan in Yeu-chau-Fu, Sien-Kü, Hwang-au Tai-ping and Ning-hai in Tai-chau-Fu, Ping-yang and Lo-tsing in Wan-chau-Fu, and Tsin-yun in Chu-chau-Fu.

Along the coast the city of Ningpo has been recovered, and Shanghae has been protected, thanks to the British, French, and Russian Governments, by the co-operation of whose troops these satisfactory results have been attained, and the military prowess exhibited has disheartened the rebels.

(China) is further under obligations to the British General Staveley for undertaking the drill of upwards of 1,000 troops at Tien-tsin. These are gradually becoming expert in their exercise.

Mr. Hart, Acting Inspector-General of Customs, has also exerted himself, and has commissioned Sherard Osborn of the British Navy (*lit.*, nation) to purchase steamers, guns, and muskets, to be used in the war.

Russia, too, in evidence of friendship, has furnished 10,000 muskets and several cannon.

Add to this that the loyalty and patriotism of the train-bands (or volunteers) in different localities has been roused, and that they are joining with a common heart in the work of suppression, binding themselves by oath to slay rebels.†

Thus, the present state of things is this. The Kiang provinces and Cheh-kiang, it may be expected, will, within a given time, be quite free of trouble; and as soon as peace shall have been restored to this region and that south-east of it, the pestilence will be swept out of the provinces higher up the river, and the remnant of (rebels disturbing) Yun-nan and Kwei-chau will be washed clean away, and the blessings of peace once more restored to all the empire.

His Excellency the British Minister, actuated by the most friendly feelings, was some time since so good as to offer valuable suggestions for the defence of the

* I follow the orthography of Dr. Williams' map. The districts near the river in those parts of Kiang-su and Ngan-hwui lying north of it have been re-occupied. Tsang Kwo-fan's force is now close to Nanking, both east and west of the city; nor do the rebels appear to hold any place of importance west of Ning-kwoh-fu. It is stated, however, that Tsang will not invest Nanking, and will attempt in the first instance the re-capture of Chang-chow, Loo-chow, and the other cities along the east bank of the canal up to Hang-chow. This would restore order throughout the silk districts.

† This is a *façon de parler*; it does not indicate any new form of popular organization.

ports of Fuh-kien and Shanghae, at which he urges a corps should be raised in the same manner as at Tien-tsin.

The Prince thereon wrote to the Governors of the provinces of Kiang-su and Fuh-kien to act as proposed, (or take steps in accordance with his Excellency's proposals).

The Prince's instructions, however, have laid chief stress on Shanghae, its defence being of more importance than any other point, seeing that it is a spot at which, like streams at their confluence, native wares are brought together; a region towards which foreign merchant-ships converge as the spokes of a wheel towards its nave. The native musketeer corps formed by the foreigner Ward at this place has been named by native and foreigner the "Ever Victorious," so well established is its repute for valour and energy; wherever it fights it gains the day. As regards the other troops assembled at Shanghae, the Governor Le has recently brought thither a force of Hu-kwang men. Among these there is not a total deficiency of men who have never seen service, but they are, it is true, but few. Besides these, there are several thousands of braves,—that is to say, braves in name, but in reality people in distress, parted from their homes in the prevailing confusion; whose condition being such as to be worthy of commiseration, they have been nominally enrolled as braves, but in reality for the purpose of giving them shelter and comforting and supporting them. They are taken out to fight to swell the ranks, and produce an effect (by their numbers on the enemy).

The Prince has written repeatedly to the Governor of Kiang-su, that in addition to his Hu-kwang Braves and the Ever Victorious Corps, he is to endeavour to choose a large number of men, and to provide abundantly for their payment, and to set to work in earnest with General Staveley to drill them, that so he may at an early date report the successful result (of this course) and be enabled by this aid to effect further movements, (warning him) that this design is not to be met by an empty response, which would be but a poor return for the courtesy shown neighbouring Powers; (and impressing on him) that were the drill to succeed, each man would be a corps, (and the body so disciplined) would be available not only for the defence of the single city of Shanghae, but for the extirpation of the villains of whom a remnant might exist in any province, to the end that some future period, peace being restored to every district in the empire, joyful and secure as would be its black-haired subjects, similarly enduring would be the security of the commerce of foreign nations; native and foreigner would be alike advantaged.

The Prince hopes that his Excellency will write again to General Staveley to aid in drilling troops. It will be the duty of his Highness on his part to reiterate his orders to the officers and men of China so employed, to use all diligence in acquiring a knowledge of this drill, that so native and foreigner acting together, the end of the war may soon be announced, as it is the Prince's earnest hope it may.

The Prince has written to the Governor of Kiang-su to ascertain the facts of the case of the officer who by his rashness, as his Excellency observes, brought defeat upon him, and to take steps accordingly.

His Excellency further observes that (in a certain eventuality) there will be but one of two courses (for foreign Governments) to pursue. The Prince imagines that his Excellency uses this outspoken language for the express purpose of stimulating the Chinese Government to activity. His Highness is sure that it is not his Excellency's desire to act in the manner (he states he will be obliged to act).

A necessary communication addressed to the Hon. Mr. Bruce.

Tung Chih, 1st year, 7th moon, 25th day (21st July, 1862).

No. 45.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received October 20.)

(Extract.)

Peking, July 24, 1862.

HER Majesty's Government will have received later intelligence from Shanghae than it is in my power to communicate. The object proposed by Sir James Hope has been in great measure realized, and the immediate neighbourhood of Shanghae cleared of robber-bands. I hope to induce the Government here to set on foot, without delay, the organization of a force which will relieve us from the necessity of maintaining a garrison there.

I may observe that the sacrifices imposed on Her Majesty's Government are

considerably exaggerated, owing to the mistaken ideas entertained in England of our relations with this Government. It was not supposed by any one conversant with Chinese ideas that the signature of the Treaty would be followed by immediate withdrawal of the land forces; on the contrary, the Convention provided that certain points should be occupied until the indemnity was paid. Of these points we only retain one, that is, Taku, with a force of less than 300 men. Canton, Tien-tsin, and the Miatow Islands have been evacuated.

Had this Government been strong, I should not have concurred in the policy of abandoning these places, for the Chinese consider that the stipulations of the Treaties were imposed by force, and they would have had no scruple in resisting their exercise at first, had they hoped to do so with success. But the existence of the insurrection and the want of funds prevented any move on the part of the anti-foreign party, and I trust by a friendly and conciliatory attitude so to strengthen the Peace Party, as to render it impossible for China hereafter to revert to the old policy of isolation.

The temporary occupation of Shanghai is, therefore, only a diversion of the force that, under other circumstances, would have been detained either at Canton or in the north, and it is not to be regretted, as a force must have been kept in the country, that it should act in support of the Government, and in protecting the industrious and commercial classes in China from the misery and ruin entailed upon them by the Tae-ping insurrection.

No. 46.

Consul Medhurst to Earl Russell.—(Received October 20.)

(Extract.)

Shanghai, August 16, 1862.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch dated the 26th of June last, on the subject of a letter published in the "Times of India," of May 13; 1862.

The description quoted by the correspondent of the "Times of India" is, as far as I can ascertain, a fabrication, and must have been the production of a person whose grossness and mendacity even a Chinese might be ashamed of.

The only notable execution of prisoners that has happened at Shanghai since the commencement of the proceedings against the Tae-pings took place in February last of this year, and the description of the scene, given by an eye-witness in letter to the editor of the local paper, was considered so exaggerated that it was at once contradicted by another looker-on writing to the same journal. The first writer defended the truth of his statements in a rejoinder; but the general feeling of the community at the time was that the milder view was the correct one, and that the execution was not accompanied by any horrors not usual on such occasions in this country. It is possible that this very scene was the one the correspondent of the "Times of India" attempted to describe.

From my own knowledge of the Chinese, derived from an acquaintance of two-and-twenty years, I should say that as a race they are cruel and callous, where they have no interest in the victim save that of sport, revenge, or neglect. But I have never observed that the Government officials are more inhuman or barbarous than the rest of their kind, and I am sure that no one but a prejudiced or casual observer could declare that the Imperialists are more cruel than the Tae-pings.

In the particular instance of prisoners taken in the late proceedings in this neighbourhood I can honestly aver that the Imperialists have, if anything, relaxed their usual severity in dealing with rebels and pirates. I have saved many captives handed over to me by simply requesting that they might not be beheaded, and I have passed over numbers of women and children found amongst the rebels by our forces to a benevolent Chinese institution licensed by Government, whose Committee have undertaken to support and clothe the unfortunates till their friends could be found. I certainly have never heard of an instance in which women and children have been beheaded and treated cruelly, nor do I think such a thing probable, as the Chinese are not in the habit of punishing women, save when they are the proved relatives or accomplices of accused persons, and it is well known that the Tae-pings have only pressed or captive women amongst them. The Chinese, moreover, in all cases, even when the prisoners are captives of war, subject them to an examination in which wonderful care and trouble are taken to sift out the truth, and although

this principle is often lost sight of, at the instance of a bribe or other powerful interest, yet it is perhaps more strictly adhered to in the case of trials of rebels, robbers, and traitors, than in any other, as they are of that important class of criminals which inferior mandarins have always to give a detailed account of to their superiors.

No. 47.

Consul Medhurst to Earl Russell.—(Received October 20.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, August 18, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, copy of a despatch addressed by me, this day, to Mr. Bruce.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure in No. 47.

Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Shanghai, August 18, 1862.

I YESTERDAY received official notice of a new irruption of the Tae-pings into the country about Wong-doo, the water-communication of which is reported to be full of boats charged with men, whose reputed object is the re-capture of Tsing-poo, which General Ward took on the 9th instant, and the assault of Sung-keong.

General Ward, who was on the point of starting for Ningpo, has returned in haste to Sung-keong.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

No. 48.

Earl Russell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 24, 1862.

I HAVE to state to you that Her Majesty's Government approve the views expressed in your despatch of the 18th of July, respecting the manner in which redress should be obtained for injuries inflicted on British traders by the Chinese local authorities. They also approve the instructions addressed by you on this subject to Her Majesty's Consul at Hankow.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 49.

Earl Russell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 24, 1862.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 24th of July, inclosing copies of a correspondence with Prince Kung respecting the operations against the Tae-pings; and with reference to that part of Prince Kung's note in which he refers to the maintenance of several thousands of indigent camp-followers, who "are taken out to fight to swell the ranks and to produce an effect," I have to observe that persons nominally enrolled as "braves," but having no discipline or skill in war, do not by their numbers produce an effect on the enemy, but by their want of courage and order are apt to embarrass and injure their own friends.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 50.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received October 27.)

(Extract.)

Admiralty, October 27, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope's letter of August , reporting generally on the movements of Her Majesty's ships in Chinese waters, and the capture of Tsing-poo and Yü-yaou from the Tae-ping rebels.

Inclosure in No. 50.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

"Impérieuse," Chefoo, August , 1862.

COLONEL WARD has reported to me the re-capture of Tsing-poo, which he has garrisoned with 3,000 of the Imperialist troops, and from a private source I have learned the capture of Yü-yaou, a town thirty miles up the Ningpo River, by Captain Dew, with the force noted in the margin,* but I have not yet received his official report.

As a considerable force had collected there, with the ultimate object of an attempt to re-capture Ningpo, and as its retention by the rebels much impeded the trade of Ningpo, I sanctioned its capture as soon as the Imperialists were prepared to garrison it. The other commercial ports are reported to me to be in a state of tranquillity.

No. 51.

Consul Medhurst to Earl Russell.—(Received November 1.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, September 3, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to forward for your Lordship's information copies of despatches addressed by me, on the 25th and 29th ultimo, and on the 3rd instant, to Mr. Bruce.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 1 in No. 51.

Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Shanghai, August 25, 1862.

SINCE the date of my despatch of the 18th instant, the Tae-pings have returned in force and occupied all the country north and west of Shanghai, to within the distance of from six to eight miles from the Settlement. On Saturday and Sunday, the 23rd and 24th instant, the detachment at Fahwa, four miles from this, had to be kept under arms in consequence of the near approach to that village of a marauding party, numbering some 500 men; and this morning seven of the Shanghai Volunteer Mounted Rangers, who went out to reconnoitre, were fortunate enough to come across a number of rebels scattered about different hamlets, all of whom they routed. I inclose Mr. Alabaster's account of what occurred, from which it would appear that Chung Wang is leading the division, and that the men belong to the army of occupation at Soo-chow. The chiefs there and at Nauchiang are therefore plainly responsible for this renewed attack on our position.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

* "Hardy," English gun-vessel; "Confucius," French ditto; party from "Encounter," 60; Colonel Ward's Chinese, 1,000; Chinese braves, 800.

Inclosure 2 in No. 51.

Memorandum.

STARTING from here at 5 A.M. with seven of the Mounted Rangers, we passed through a crowd of refugees to the stone bridge, which we found drawn on account of vicinity of rebels. Crossing this and advancing some miles, we heard the villagers who had followed us shouting, and were told by one who had rushed in, that the rebels were close to us, and had, in fact, killed three men within a stone's throw; a baby with its throat cut we saw ourselves. Galloping on, we came on the rebels immediately in the shape of some 50 to 150 men, dressed in the Soo-chow uniform, white with orange borders, and charging, killed a few and took one prisoner, the rest escaping by breaking down a bridge; we then turned off to the right, and made a circuit in the country, where we met numerous bodies of men, varying in number from 50 to 250, who were dispersed and scattered; but the sun getting hot, and a large body, some 2,000 strong, being seen advancing to cut us off, we retired. The prisoner's deposition is attached, but without it the flag captured and the uniform of the rebels prove them to be a portion of Chung Wang's army recently arrived from Soo-chow, and they seem to be spread in small bodies of from 100 to 500, within a radius of four and a-half miles from Shanghae, the main body being some two miles beyond them in support.

(Signed)

CHALONER ALABASTER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 51.

Deposition.

THE prisoner deposes that, originally an agriculturist of San-che, of Chiu-who, in Chin-kiang, he was seized by the rebels in the fourth moon of this year and carried to Soo-chow, whence he came this month to Shanghae to collect rice, &c., there being a scarcity at Soo-chow; Chung Wang is said to have also left Soo-chow, but the prisoner is not certain. The rebel force numbers about 15,000.

Inclosure 4 in No. 51.

Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Shanghae, August 29, 1862.

ON the 26th instant, a party of Tae-pings, mounted and on foot, and forming part of the large body reported in my despatch of the 25th instant to be again in our vicinity, passed in upon the right of our front, where it was presumed the Soo-chow Creek protected us, and ventured as far as Bubbling Well village, plundering, murdering, and burning in the hamlets in their usual style. They attempted to cut off an escort of Commissariat coolies carrying provisions to Fahwa, but fortunately the men escaped, and brought in the news of their advance.

Colonel Thomas at once moved out 900 men in three divisions to try and cut them off if possible, but they were too quick for him, and effected their escape to the other side of the Soo-chow Creek across a floating bridge they had managed to throw over that canal, when it was not thought prudent to pursue them any further.

The present military roads are to be extended to the point where the bridge was found, and an outpost placed there, so as to make the Soo-chow Creek a defence on the right, and prevent the possibility of another such surprise.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure 5 in No. 51.

Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Shanghae, September 3, 1862.

THE body of Tae-pings alluded to in my despatches of the 25th and 29th instant have fallen back from their late position some few miles, and are comparatively quiet

just now. Their main object in coming near us lately has been, no doubt, to be in time for the ripening of the crops during this month, as they are said to be greatly in need of rice, so much so that they have in many places between Woo-sung and Kading not waited for the corn to ripen, but have cut it down green and carried it off.

The refugees who flooded the settlement a week ago have most of them returned to their villages.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

No. 52.

Sir E. Lugard to Mr. Hammond.—(Received November 1.)

Sir,

War Office, November 1, 1862.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir George Lewis to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Russell, the accompanying copy of a despatch, dated 3rd September, from the officer commanding the troops in China, reporting the advance towards Shanghae, and dispersion by the allied troops, of a band of Tae-pings, and the measures he had taken for preventing a recurrence of these incursions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD LUGARD.

Inclosure in No. 52.

Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas to Sir G. C. Lewis.

Sir,

Head-Quarters, Shanghae, September 3, 1862.

THE Brigadier-General Commanding not having returned from Japan, where he has proceeded for the benefit of his health, it becomes my duty to report that in consequence of the advance towards Shanghae of a band of Tae-ping marauders from the west, whose movements appeared governed by a spirit of unusual audacity, and before whom the villagers and country-people fled in terror, and as they had ventured to penetrate between our outposts, I considered it necessary to move out a portion of the British force in garrison, and in conjunction with the French to drive them from the vicinity of the outposts and across the Soo-chow Creek.

This was accordingly done on the 26th August with success, and without any loss to us.

The country round has since remained quite free from these marauders, and the villagers have returned to their homes.

Measures are being adopted by the Chinese local authorities to extend the roads already formed, so as to prevent a recurrence of these raids, by affording capabilities for the speedy movements of troops through the country to a distance of five miles from Shanghae.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. THOMAS.

No. 53.

Earl Russell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 13, 1862.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 14th of July, setting forth the inconvenience which arises from the facility with which the Chinese insurgents obtain arms and military stores.

It appears to Her Majesty's Government that some check might be placed on this proceeding, at least as far as British subjects are concerned, if you should issue a Rule or Regulation under the Order in Council, prohibiting British subjects from exporting arms and military stores from the Treaty ports except under license from Her Majesty's Consular Officers, conditioned that they are not destined for the use of the insurgents; and I accordingly transmit to you herewith the draft of such Rule or

Regulation which I am advised by the Law Officers of the Crown may properly be issued by you.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

P.S.—I also inclose a copy of a letter which I have caused to be addressed to the Colonial and India Offices on the same subject.*

R.

Inclosure in No. 53.

Draft Rule or Regulation.

WHEREAS by virtue of several Statutes of the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain, and of an Order of Her Majesty in Council dated June 13, 1853, Her Majesty's Chief Superintendent of British Trade in China is authorized and empowered to make and to enforce, by fine or imprisonment, Rules and Regulations for the observance of the stipulations of the Treaties between Her Majesty and the Emperor of China, and for the peace, order, and good government of Her Majesty's subjects being within the dominions of the Emperor of China, or being within any British ship or vessel at a distance of not more than one hundred miles from the coast of China.

Now I, the Honourable Frederick Bruce, &c., &c., being Her Majesty's Chief Superintendent of British Trade in China, do, in pursuance and in execution of the aforesaid authority, hereby make the following Rule, Regulation, and Order,—that is to say, That all Her Majesty's subjects, being within the dominions of the Emperor of China, or being within any British ship or vessel at a distance of not more than one hundred miles from the coast of China, are strictly prohibited, under the penalties aforesaid, from importing or introducing, or causing to be imported or introduced into any part of the dominions of the Emperor of China, and from transmitting or causing to be transmitted from any part of the said dominions to any part thereof, any arms, ammunition, gunpowder, or naval or military stores, except under special license from one of Her Majesty's Consular Officers in China, and under the express condition and guarantee that none of the aforesaid articles are destined for the use of the insurgents in arms against Her Majesty's ally the Emperor of China.

No. 54.

Mr. Hammond to Sir F. Rogers.†

Sir, I AM directed by Earl Russell to transmit to you herewith a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister in China,‡ setting forth the inconvenience which arises from the facility with which the Chinese insurgents obtain arms and military stores; and I am to request that you will submit to the Duke of Newcastle whether the Governor of Hong Kong might not be instructed, through the Colonial Legislature or otherwise, to take steps for preventing the exportation of warlike stores of any kind to districts either in the possession of or accessible to the insurgents, or generally to the ports of China, except under license conditioned with a view to prevent them from being disposed of to the insurgents.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

P.S.—I am at the same time to inclose a copy of the despatch which will be addressed to Mr. Bruce on this subject,§ and which, together with my present letter, has been submitted to the Law Officers, and is concurred in by them.

* No. 54.

† A similar letter was addressed to the India Office, as regards Singapore.

‡ No. 42.

§ No. 53.

Consul Harvey to Mr. Hammond.—(Received November 14.)

(Extract.)

Ningpo, September 10, 1862.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your despatch of the 16th of June last, in which you call my attention to a statement which has been made in England, that the Tae-pings, whilst in the possession of Ningpo, had established a regular Custom-house, and published a Customs Tariff, and instructing me, by direction of Earl Russell, should that be the case, to send to the Foreign Office a copy of such Tariff, and to report generally as to the manner in which the Custom-house was carried on, the amount of trade, and the mode in which the Tariff was enforced.

I apprehend that the question relates solely to a foreign Custom-house and to a foreign Tariff, in which case I have the honour to inform you in reply that no foreign Custom-house was ever established by the Tae-pings at this port, no foreign Customs Tariff was ever promulgated by them, and that, in short, Ningpo was a free port for foreign ships and cargoes from the 9th day of December, 1861 (when the city was captured by the Tae-pings), until the return of the Foreign Customs Inspectorate, shortly after the expulsion of the rebels from their occupation of this town.

Had the Tae-pings shown the least inclination to establish a regular foreign Custom-house, it would of course have been my duty to have reported to you, for Earl Russell's information, these first symptoms of a desire to lay the foundations of commercial institutions at this port; for next to our personal safety here during the rebel rule, the question of a Custom-house was the most prominent consideration in my mind at the time, and one to which I gave much serious thought. As temporary masters of this port and surrounding districts, I had fully decided on not disputing, in any manner, the right of the Tae-pings to levy duties on foreign trade; all I had proposed effecting, when the proper time came, being to watch narrowly and vigilantly that our merchants were not placed in a worse position with the rebels than they previously stood under the Imperial Tariff; but that time never came, and consequently there was no call for the exercise of any vigilance on my part, the matter never having assumed any shape whatever, or any serious attempt having been made by the Tae-pings to organise anything so regular as a foreign Custom-house.

I may, however, here mention that they did open a kind of Chinese office on the east side of the river, opposite to our "Concession," for the purpose of levying taxes on the few native boats, with trifling passengers and goods, which necessity compelled to approach that quarter of Ningpo; but from what I personally saw and witnessed, the arrangements pertaining to this office were made in the usual loose and hand-to-mouth manner which generally characterises Tae-ping institutions. It seemed to me that want and fancy settled and dictated terms more than the application of any fiscal regulations upon the Chinese who fell within the grasp of the rebels at that station. A peculiar feature connected with this pseudo Customs establishment was the fact that, after the day's labour was supposed to have been accomplished, the heads of the department, with their cash and daily profits in a bag, retreated with great precipitation into the city, hastily closing the gates after them, as they did not consider their persons safe outside the walls during the night. In the morning they re-appeared at their office, where, having little or nothing to do, they were seen beguiling the long hours by gambling, the filthiest debauchery, and drinking, the last pushed to extreme intoxication. Two or three visits that I personally paid to this establishment were as much as I could bear, but they were more than sufficient to edify me as to the internal economy of the whole of the arrangements, to say nothing of the shamelessly obscene character of the worthies who presided over it. This was about the best and only attempt at administrative initiative adopted by the Taepings during their sojourn in Ningpo.

I have reason for knowing that similar loose and irregular offices, or barriers, are set up in districts held by the Tae-pings in the interior of the country, at which native and other boats are stopped, and a duty of some sort levied on them and their contents. But, generally speaking (I am now stating facts, and not expressing opinions), a friendly and brotherly compromise is effected between the rebels and foreigners, one or two boxes of German percussion caps, for instance, tending to facilitate negotiations with wonderful rapidity. Foreign guns and muskets, pistols and powder, with ammunition of every description, are likewise in great demand by

the Tae-pings: and these, it is painfully notorious, they contrived to obtain from disreputable foreigners here and at Shanghae (these arms, &c., being paid for by the rebels, at enormous rates, with money, silk, and other valuable produce, forcibly wrenched and plundered from the murdered and oppressed inhabitants of the interior), notwithstanding all the strenuous efforts of Sir James Hope and the British authorities in these parts to check and put a stop to this nefarious and disgraceful traffic.

It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that those foreign merchants in China who are still engaged in these lucrative but shameful dealings with the rebels should lament over the lesson given, in May last, to the Tae-pings at Ningpo, and that the agents or constituents of these merchants, out of China, should join in those lamentations, and view with particular distaste any coercive action taken against their profitable rebel clients. These foreign traders sagaciously conclude that it is not every year that a Tae-ping horde will be permitted to occupy one of our Treaty ports, and consequently, that the easy terms and exceptionally gainful days of Ningpo, under rebel rule (without Imperial authorities, Custom-house, or Tariff) are not likely to return and flourish once more very quickly. Hence we have seen, as was indeed expected, a certain amount of obloquy cast by parties in China (very few in number, I am proud to add) upon the noble and humane proceedings of Sir James Hope and other public functionaries; such obloquy originating, of course, in the fact of the pockets of those merchants having suffered by our action and policy at this part towards the rebels, as well as by the long range at which those hordes are compelled to remain outside of Shanghae. It is, we all know and admit, in human nature to resent the loss of large profits; and for my part I am able to a certain extent, even in this case, to enter into the disappointed feelings of those whose gains and perquisites have been considerably lessened by unavoidable acts of political interference.

But, unfortunately, those merchants are by no means alone in the field of the discontented. There are a few others, I grieve to add, of a far different stamp and character, and of vastly dissimilar pursuits, who also entertain, in China, an incredible bias towards Tae-pingdom and its tenets. And because that secret leaning is suppressed and unavowed, let it not be supposed that it does not fully exist in their inmost hearts, patiently waiting for its open avowal and more patient vitality, when the times and circumstances may seem less generally averse to the Tae-pings and their cause. Let us earnestly hope, for the honour of Christianity, that those times and circumstances may never be seen. In truth, I must confess that what my mind cannot embrace, what my comprehension is still unable to grasp, is this morbid sympathy, on religious grounds, alleged to be entertained by the parties in question for those Tae-ping miscreants. I find it so difficult a task to appreciate or even to understand that sympathy, that I am almost forced sometimes to disbelieve in its real existence, mentally placing its incentive on quite a different basis; for instance, upon a pedestal more terrestrial than spiritual in its nature. Be that as it may, however, I feel fully convinced that if ever the Tae-ping Chiefs are seriously informed of this compassionate and Christian regard for their principles, it will not fail to afford them the liveliest entertainment.

No. 56.

Consul Harvey to Mr. Hammond.—(Received November 14.)

Sir,

Ningpo, September 10, 1862.

I HAVE been honoured by Earl Russell's despatch of the 26th June last, inclosing an account, by an eye-witness, of atrocities perpetrated on Tae-ping prisoners by the Imperialists at Shanghae; and instructing me to report whether any similar cruelties have been committed by the Chinese within the district of my Consulate.

The statement from the "Overland Times of India" is the first intimation I have received of these atrocities. It seems to me very strange that, living so near Shanghae, I should not before now have heard of them, considering that at the period of their alleged occurrence there were two newspapers published in Shanghae. But perhaps it is even more strange that these barbarities were allowed to be perpetrated (so it is stated) in the presence of English and French officers (the

eye-witness included), without the slightest effort having apparently been made by the lookers-on to check and otherwise put a summary stop to this butchery. Mr. Consul Medhurst will, however, be able to supply all necessary details as to the correctness and authenticity of the statement; and further be in a position to lay before his Lordship the fullest particulars bearing upon the subject.

As regards Ningpo and its districts, my despatches on late events will have conveyed to you all needful information upon this important point; I am bound to admit that Chinhae, Ningpo, and Yu-yaou, have been recaptured, successively, under circumstances of great humanity, moderation, and soberness. No efforts have been spared by both Captain Dew and myself to impress on the local authorities, in the strongest language possible, and at opportune moments, our firm determination not to allow the shedding of blood, or to countenance any of those acts of Asiatic revenge and gratified cruelty which have so often disgraced the Imperial cause. And as we spoke, so we acted. There were very few executions, and no torture of any kind whatever. In the half dozen cases of decapitations, real old rebels were the sufferers, traitors to their Sovereign and country, and most wicked and dangerous criminals. I must add, for the credit of our local authorities, that they understood and fully appreciated our wishes and demands in this respect, and that they readily complied with them,—thereby rendering it needless that we should take the steps necessary to have them enforced.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK HARVEY.

No. 57.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received November 17.)

Sir,

Admiralty, November 14, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, dated the 14th September, with copy of its inclosure, reporting generally on the state of affairs in China.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 7.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

"Impérieuse," Che-foo, September 14, 1862.

CAPTAIN BORLASE reports to me the interruption of a rebel force in the neighbourhood of Shanghae, and that, having been driven back with some loss by the troops and volunteers, they are stated to have returned to Soo-chow, where they are reported to be assembled in great numbers with the intention of spreading themselves over the country for the purpose of collecting the rice when the harvest is got in; in view of which their feint on Shanghae was probably a feeler to ascertain how near they could approach with impunity.

I forward an extract of a letter addressed to me by Captain Dew, descriptive of the state of Ningpo.

Nothing has occurred at the other commercial ports since I last wrote, worthy of notice.

Inclosure 2 in No. 57.

Captain Dew to Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope.

(Extract.)

"Encounter," at Ningpo, September 3, 1862.

I HAVE much pleasure in informing you that all is quiet at Ningpo and Yu-yaou, the rebels being at about ten miles from the latter place, where I keep a strong garrison of 1,000 European-drilled Chinese, including 50 Artillerymen, and have mounted, and well supplied with ammunition, eighteen guns of different calibre;

there are likewise 1,500 Chinese braves in camp outside Yu-yaou, so that I have no fear for its safety.

The city of Ningpo is fast approaching its former position as a great mercantile city, and the forest of junks' masts denotes the returning trade; the rich merchants who, with their families, had left *en masse* for Shanghai on the approach of the rebels last year, have returned, deeming Ningpo to be now safer than that city with its continued rebel alarms.

There is an unusual amount of energy shown by the mandarins, and it is evidently their wish (as far as their means will allow) to act with faith, in both payment of troops and fitting out expeditions to regain the rebel portion of this province.

No. 58.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received November 20.)

My Lord,

Peking, August 15, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose extracts of a letter to Sir James Hope, from the officer in command of the gun-boats stationed at Hankow, from which your Lordship will see some of the disadvantages consequent on the employment of force in settling land questions.

In the first place, Her Majesty's forces are engaged in pulling down sheds and removing the population by force, which the Chinese authorities ought to do, if it is to be done at all; and the British merchants, counting no doubt on armed support, actually refuse to advance the money which the officer has promised to the people to induce them to remove.

I leave it to your Lordship to decide how far such proceedings are likely to produce a good feeling between the natives and foreigners, the absence of which is certain to create difficulties between the Governments. I consider that the acquisition of a desirable trading site is dearly bought on such terms.

Sir James Hope informs me that he has directed Lieutenant Poole to inform the merchants who are not amenable to his advice that he has the Admiral's orders not to meddle any more in the matter.

Mr. Burlingame tells me that the American merchants have bought sites, dealing directly with the proprietors without the intervention of any official, foreign or native, and without opposition on the part of the inhabitants. They labour under the disadvantage of not being collected together, and of being so situated as to render their protection difficult in the event of a disturbance; but, on the other hand, the risks of disturbances are diminished.

At all events, I think in these forcible expropriations of land we have been guided too exclusively by what is convenient to our merchants, and I adhere to the opinion that, if we desire to acquire concessions of land, they ought to be selected so as not to produce bad blood when our claims are put in force. Trade will always follow the foreign capitalist.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure in No. 58.

Lieutenant Poole to Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope.

(Extract.)

"Havoc," Hankow, July 14, 1862.

I AM glad to be able to tell you that Mr. King and myself are getting on very well with the mandarins sent by the Viceroy to value the houses with us, on the lots in dispute (2, 3, and 4). The people at first refused to take the money we offered for their houses, but this was to be expected, as they had been promised by the former Han-yang-Foo double the money he said we would give, so last week, on Friday, I landed the men before daylight and pulled down the largest of the houses (a large pig hong), the owner of which had refused to sell at the price we offered. This has had the desired effect, and we have more than half of the houses on these lots valued. The owners of the houses are made by the mandarins to sign an agreement before me to take the money we offer for their houses.

While we are doing all this, I am sorry to say the merchants are behaving very badly to us, by objecting to advance money for the payment of the eighteen lots we settled the beginning of the month. About two months ago Mr. Gingell called upon all the applicants for lots on the concession to advance 1,000 taels, as he then expected that he would get Nos. 2, 3, and 4 lots in a short time, and a small sum was required to complete the sum asked for the first lots; out of the sixty-four applicants, only fifteen paid the 1,000 taels. When Mr. King and myself settled the fifth to the eighth lots, I promised the mandarins that the money should be given to them on a certain day, not suspecting for one moment that there would be any difficulty in raising the money to pay for the land the merchants have been raving for, for the last sixteen months; but, on Mr. King sending round a circular, requesting the people to pay the 1,000 taels asked for by Mr. Gingell, and 500 taels in addition, only two paid up the 1,000 taels, and five of those who had paid up the first call paid the 500 taels. This annoyed me very much, as I had promised the money would be ready when the mandarins asked for it. Mr. King has, at last, but with the greatest trouble, got all the money required, but in several cases the merchants' orders on their compradores have been refused payment for ten and twelve days (the great house of Jardine among the number); and they now say that they will not advance any more money till the ground is handed over to them, and the Municipal Council say that they will not do anything till the ground is handed over to the merchants, which is impossible, for the people must be paid before they will turn out of their houses. If the Consul were here, I would advise him to give the choice of lots to those people who would advance the money for them.

Were it not that I feel it my duty to go on valuing the lots, and getting everything in training by the time the Commissioner comes, I would not stir a hand in the matter again, and I have let them know that the sooner they send to Shanghai for some one to measure their lots and survey the ground, the better, for I am not prepared to do so.

No. 59.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received November 20.)

My Lord,

Peking, August 24, 1862.

THE United States' Minister, Mr. Burlingame, has arrived at Peking, where he has been received by the Prince of Kung and his associates in the Foreign Board in a friendly spirit. He has bought a small house, and is fitting it up as a temporary residence, pending the sanction of his Government and his proposal for the acquisition of a suitable site for building.

I am glad of Mr. Burlingame's arrival, as Mr. Hart is on his way to Peking, with whom I shall have to revise the Regulations under which trade on the Yang-tze River is carried on. Experience has shown that they are defective in many respects; and considering the importance and delicacy of the question, and the active part taken by American citizens in the traffic, I think it will be a great point gained if the United States' Minister concurs in the arrangement ultimately adopted.

This is the more necessary as the notice issued by the Admiral and Sir Harry Parkes, on their return from Hankow in the beginning of 1861, had thrown open rather hastily the whole course of the River Yang-tze to trade. This measure was not contemplated in the proposal I made to the Prince of Kung, which merely suggested the opening of two ports. The Chinese Government could not be brought to assent to it, and in my opinion their objections were well founded, as the step would certainly have done much to perpetuate the disorder prevalent in the centre of China, which it is as much our interest as that of the Chinese to see put down. I was compelled, therefore, to restrict trade to the ports of Kiu-kiang and Hankow; a limitation unacceptable to the mercantile community in general, to whom every extension of facilities for trading is *prima facie* desirable.

As far as I can judge from Mr. Burlingame's language, he entirely concurs in the two main principles which I think should guide us in our deliberation, namely, that our true interest consists in the suppression of rebellion and in the restoration of order, and that the opening of ports and the formation of Settlements, without the presence of Consular authority, will lead to quarrels and misunderstandings with the people, and be ultimately disadvantageous to our position in China.

M. Guimaraes has signed a Treaty on behalf of Portugal, of a satisfactory tenor; though it does not formally recognize Macao as a Portuguese possession, it does recognize the exclusive jurisdiction of the Portuguese, and merely stipulates that should the Chinese Government appoint an officer to reside there, his powers shall be those of a foreign Consul at an open port.

I think the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty is entitled to be well contented with the result.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

No. 60.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received November 20.)

My Lord,

Peking, August 27, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Chin-kiang, which contains information on the condition of affairs on the Yang-tze river.

The stoppage of water-communication between the sea-board and the upper provinces, owing to the possession of Nanking by the Tae-pings, had materially interfered with the necessary supplies of salt. On the opening of the river under the arrangement concluded between the Prince of Kung and myself, the high prices given for salt have rendered that article a very profitable subject of traffic. But the river is only open to vessels under foreign flags, for they only can pass the rebel position in safety; and the trade being one in which foreigners under Treaty cannot engage, lorchas and junks are in the habit of taking in salt at places above Chin-kiang on Chinese account, and of proceeding up the river for the purpose of selling it.

This trade has led to the establishment of Custom-house stations, probably by the local authorities, who allow the trade to go on, on payment of a tax. The class of Europeans employed in these small vessels are not inclined to pay any tax, unless compelled by force. Hence arise conflicts between them and the war-junks stationed to support these local Custom-houses, and I am inclined to suspect that out of these collisions have arisen those applications for naval assistance to which, in a previous despatch, I have referred.

In the inclosed despatch to the Prince of Kung, I have told him of my readiness to co-operate in preventing the formation of these settlements under no Consular control, which are certain to lead to acts of violence and to misunderstandings, and I have suggested to him that permits to carry salt should be given at Shanghai, which would yield revenue, and would relieve the scarcity of salt, which gives rise to the smuggling trade.

I am informed that large quantities of sea-weed are taken up to Hankow for the purpose of extracting the salt it contains.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 60.

Mr. Adkins to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Chin-kiang, June 7, 1862.

I REGRET to have to inform your Excellency that the legitimate trade on this river is much prejudiced by the unlawful acts of boats under foreign flags. The system of convoying is becoming general, and a contraband trade in salt is assuming formidable dimensions.

Salt is scarce at Hankow, and the Chinese are glad to convey it thither in foreign vessels.

One of the principal salt-depôts on the river is at I-cheng, a place about fourteen miles from this and higher up the river. Most of the boats trading beyond Chin-kiang under foreign colours anchor at this place, and take in as much salt as they can carry, in addition to their legal cargo. These boats on passing certain Customs barriers are boarded and made to pay duty. It thus arises that boats engaged in legitimate trade are stopped at these same barriers, and on refusing to pay the exactions, to which the boats engaged in contraband trade submit, are robbed of cargo and put to great inconvenience.

I am also informed that a number of vagabond foreigners have taken up their residence at I-cheng and hire themselves to Chinese to escort salt-boats up the river. In a dispute with an official about the amount of duty payable on a cargo of salt, one of these ruffians drew his revolver and mortally wounded the unfortunate Chinese.

Under these circumstances it seemed to me that it was my duty to put a stop to illegitimate trading on this portion of the river, if possible. I therefore wrote to the senior naval officer at Nanking, and requested him to examine all British junks passing his anchorage, allowing those to proceed whose papers and cargoes corresponded, but ordering back to this port those which, having been cleared in ballast, were found to have a cargo of salt on board. Complying with my requisition, Commander Franklin ordered back three junks, which, sailing under English colours, had considerable quantities of salt on board. On their arrival at this port, I laid the facts of the case before the Superintendent and Deputy-Commissioner of Customs, and informed them that the junks were at their disposal. I have no doubt that vessels and cargoes will be confiscated to the Chinese Government.

I trust your Excellency will approve of prompt steps being taken to put a stop to this kind of trade on the river. There is such an abundant scope for a large legitimate trade on the Yang-tze, that there is really no excuse for setting Treaties at defiance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOMAS ADKINS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 60.

Mr. Bruce to the Prince of Kung.

(Extract.)

Peking, August 25, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose extract of a letter received from Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Chin-kiang on the illegal trade carried on on the Yang-tze.

I beg to call your Imperial Highness' attention to the illegal formation of a Settlement at I-cheng. I do not approve of Settlements being formed except at open ports, but I cannot break them up. The Chinese authorities must warn these people off, and if they refuse to go, I advise your Imperial Highness to address a despatch to myself and Mr. Burlingame, and to the French Minister, should any French subjects be among the residents. We will then consult on the steps to be taken. But in the first instance the Chinese authority must warn these people away.

As the people at Hankow want salt, it is but right they should be allowed to get it; and the best way to put an end to smuggling would be to give licenses at Shanghai to take up salt, by which a revenue might be realized, and smuggling would be put down.

No. 61.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received November 20.)

My Lord,

Peking, September 8, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation of a letter from the Prince of Kung, and of my reply, of a circular to Her Majesty's Consuls in China, and of a letter to Sir James Hope, the Admiral on the station.

The circular contains instructions drawn up with a view to prevent the Consuls from calling in the aid of Her Majesty's naval forces, in any case in which the lives and property of Her Majesty's subjects are not directly endangered. All other cases of breach of Treaty are to be referred to the Minister at Peking.

My letter to the Prince contains a statement of what has passed at Hankow, in answer to his observations on the friendly conduct of Kwan Wên, the Governor-General, in bringing the land question to a settlement. I have pointed out to him that Mr. Gingell, having failed to obtain redress for violations of Treaty, or protection for Her Majesty's subjects, and, seeing that the Governor-General evaded compliance with the instructions from Peking, had called in the assistance of the gun-boat stationed there, upon which the Governor-General gave way. I have at the same time stated that I have issued instructions to Her Majesty's Consuls not

to resort to these violent modes of obtaining redress, though they are justified in calling in the aid of Her Majesty's Naval Forces where the lives or property of Her Majesty's subjects are in peril. On the other hand, I have explained to him that I reserve to myself the power of placing the case in the hands of the Admiral, when I find that instructions issued from Peking are disregarded by the provincial authorities.

Our relations with China cannot be put on a safe footing until the Imperial Government itself compels its local officers to observe Treaties. At first, this method of obtaining redress will be slow and imperfect, for until we acquired a permanent footing at Peking the Government treated "barbarian" affairs as unworthy of attention, and high provincial authorities dealt with them as they liked, with a contempt for Treaty rights proportioned to their ignorance of the power of foreigners. In a country of tradition and precedent, these ideas are not easy to eradicate. Our true policy is to give weight and authority to the Foreign Board, by compelling it to deal with foreign questions and to punish, if necessary, officials who violate Treaties, and thus to teach the latter to tremble when a Consul threatens to bring a matter under the notice of the Minister at Peking. In this way, the Foreign Board will come to be looked upon as a powerful Department in the administration of the empire; and the fact that the Prince of Kung is at its head is favourable to giving it the prestige, in the eyes of Local Governors, which is necessary to render it effectual for the purposes designed.

Though, therefore, there may be cases in which it may be necessary for the Minister to call on the Admiral to act, he ought only to adopt this course in the last extremity, after having expostulated in vain, and after full warning of the steps he is about to take.

I have received, by this mail, a despatch from Mr. Consul Gingell, informing me that the land question at Hankow is being satisfactorily arranged.

I have, &c.

(Signed) **FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.**

Inclosure 1 in No. 61.

The Prince of Kung to Mr. Bruce.

(Translation.)

Peking, August 30, 1862.

THE Prince of Kung makes a communication.

The Prince is in receipt of a despatch from the Governor-General of Hu-kwang reporting the arrangements entered into respecting the prices of land purchased (or about to be purchased) by British subjects at Hankow. The piece of ground in question is of considerable extent, the number of holders large, and the difference of the value of the ground in different lots occasions a corresponding difference in the prices asked for them. An officer deputed by the Governor-General has been in communication with the local authorities and the British Consul, and they have together made arrangements for the setting apart of eighteen lots for building purposes. These sites from No. 1 to No. 8 inclusive, are one-half very fine ground and one-half very poor. The holders being poor people comfortably settled there, when required to move again, of course, attempted to run up the price of their land, but the local authorities assembled them, and, after earnest expostulation, made an equitable reduction of the prices they claimed, and gave notice to the population that within a certain time they must be off the ground, and that it must be handed over to the purchasers. These steps were very complete and satisfactory. On the other sites from No. 9 to No. 18 inclusive, they were a number of rough sheds, which made the reduction of the price even more practicable than on the first ground. The measurement has been satisfactorily completed, and the whole question will now be finally settled at once.

The language of the Governor-General appears to His Highness dictated by the most friendly feelings. The Governor-General would not allow British merchants to suffer, and therefore considered how the cost of the land might be reduced, and notified to the people that they must move off the land and surrender it. His method of proceeding, too, as expeditious as it has been complete, is full evidence of the tender consideration of the Governor-General for the merchants from afar.

It appears to the Prince that when two nations (or Governments) are on good terms, it is conducive to friendly relations that in all questions that may present

themselves, there should be a reciprocity of lively interest displayed. Since last spring this office has disposed of many questions for the British Government: bad characters at New-chwang have been arrested; Maitland has been reimbursed for his losses; the money due by Wang King-kee has been recovered; the removal of the restrictions on the bean trade was applied for to the Throne; and now there is this purchase of land at Hankow;—every one of which questions has been satisfactorily disposed of in a spirit of sincerity. No inattention has been shown to the British Minister's earnest applications.

The British Minister, on the other hand, has left several communications from this office without a reply. The more important are those relating to foreign vessels moving on the Great River by night; foreign vessels forcing their way past a customs station, and carrying off junks and guns (or a junk and its guns); the detention of junks taken on the river near Luh-ho, after money had been paid (in compensation of the loss alleged); also the burning of some "hung tang" junks at Chou-chia-hsü, in the district of Jukao; and, lastly, the refusal by Mr. Consul Medhurst to surrender Hwang-hwan. These questions have all been pressed again and again upon Mr. Wade, but the British Minister has not yet acknowledged the despatches relating to them.

The Prince has full confidence in the good faith and equity with which his Excellency disposes of all business. It is for this cause that His Highness now speaks with so much detail; and His Highness does hope that his Excellency will at once direct the Consuls to settle the affair of the junks at Chou-chia-hsü, and all similar cases; and to give up Hwang-wan as the Treaty requires, in order to the consolidation of the good understanding. His Highness also hopes that his Excellency will send an early reply to this communication.

A necessary communication, &c.

Inclosure 2 in No. 61.

Mr. Bruce to the Prince of Kung.

Sir,

Peking, September 6, 1862.

I HAVE received the despatch of your Imperial Highness dated the 30th of August, informing me of the steps taken by his Excellency Kwan Wên to deliver to Her Majesty's subjects the land rented for their use by Mr. Parkes, at Hankow.

The Consul has not as yet reported to me that the lots have been cleared of their former occupiers, and I shall be very glad when the matter is definitively settled.

I must remark, however, that it would have been more satisfactory, and would have prevented much difficulty and bad feeling, had his Excellency Kwan Wên acted from the first in a friendly spirit, and had he not given ground for the complaints of delay and evasion which compelled me to request your Imperial Highness to issue instructions to him. I trust that his Excellency is now convinced of the impolicy of the course he pursued, but I think it necessary to repeat that his slowness to afford sufficient protection against the "braves," his reluctance to allow to Her Majesty's subjects the exercise of their trading privileges, his pertinacity in levying inland duties in excess of what is fixed by Treaty, and his delay in refunding, even when instructed to do so by your Imperial Highness, were the causes which induced Her Majesty's Consul to call in the aid of force, and request the intervention of the British Admiral, in despair of obtaining, otherwise, redress or security for Her Majesty's subjects.

Perhaps your Imperial Highness is not fully aware of what are the real grounds of the change in the course pursued by his Excellency Kwan. It was found in vain to appeal to the Treaty, or to seek to obtain redress by the representations made to me at Peking. In spite of your Imperial Highness' instructions, his Excellency persisted in a course of conduct at variance with Treaty rights, until he received a letter couched in menacing terms by the British Admiral, and until a ship of war had forcibly carried off a vessel freighted by a British subject which was detained by a local Custom-house to exact a payment in excess of the transit duties. His Excellency Kwan Wên seeing that a collision would be inevitable if he persisted in these illegal demands, gave way.

In the month of January I pointed out to your Imperial Highness that this course of proceeding was the cause of our former quarrels in China; that the local

authorities would not observe the Treaty unless compelled by force; and that it would be impossible to avoid collisions unless the Imperial Government punished those provincial officers who so misconduct themselves. Your Imperial Highness issued a circular to that effect; but if I am to judge by the conduct of the officials at Hankow and Chaou-chow-foo, it seems to have little effect. His Excellency Kwan paid no attention to it, nor to the instructions of your Imperial Highness, and the observance of the Treaty has only been secured by a recourse to the old expedient of menaces and violence.

I do not, however, approve of Her Majesty's Consuls adopting these measures on their own responsibility. I have instructed them not to call in the aid of ships of war unless in cases where the lives or property of Her Majesty's subjects are threatened, as was the case at Hankow, when the "braves" were allowed to anchor off the foreign Settlement, and proceeded to rob and assault indiscriminately foreigners in the streets. In the absence of protection by the Chinese authorities, the Consul was justified in using force to protect Her Majesty's subjects, and to insure the punishment of the offenders. But as I do not wish to mislead your Imperial Highness, I must state that although I do not authorize Consuls to seek redress by the strong hand, in other cases I reserve to myself full liberty to take such steps as I may deem necessary for the enforcement of the Treaty, if I find that the provincial authority disregards the instructions forwarded to him by your Imperial Highness. If the orders of your Imperial Highness are disregarded, and if the disobedient officer is not removed, there is no other course open to me but to call upon the Admiral to repress violation of Treaty, and, however reluctantly, I must adopt it. It will be impossible for me to justify the continuance of the support Her Majesty's forces have given to those of His Imperial Majesty at Shanghai and Ningpo, unless I can show that the officers of the Imperial Government do carry out the Treaty, and act in a cordial spirit towards us as friends.

I have been unable to answer in detail the despatches of your Imperial Highness with respect to the seizure of junks on the Yang-tze River, because I do not understand sufficiently the circumstances under which they have taken place. I believe it will be found that they have grown out of proceedings connected with the salt trade on the river. The local authorities station junks to levy duty on salt, and they interfere with other vessels engaged in the traffic. But I hope the instructions I have given will prevent the recurrence of the acts complained of, and that the arrival of Mr. Hart will throw some light on the subject.

I do full justice to the friendly disposition of your Imperial Highness, and to your desire to see peace and harmony established, and I shall be quite satisfied if his Excellency Kwan Wên will in future act in a reasonable spirit. But Hankow is too important a point, and the interests of the Chinese producer, as well as of the foreign merchant, are too much involved in the great traffic created by the opening of the Yang-tze River, for it to be safe or expedient that the chief authority at that place should act as if he wished to thwart, instead of encourage it. Trade will restore tranquillity, and increase the wealth of that part of China, and that wealth will, if judiciously applied, be of essential service in providing resources for the suppression of insurrection.

I am, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 61.

Circular addressed by Mr. Bruce to Her Majesty's Consuls in China.

Sir,

Peking, September 2, 1862.

WITH respect to the mode of dealing with cases in which the Treaty rights of Her Majesty's subjects are violated, I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government has issued instructions* that in no case whatever is force to be resorted to unless the security of British life or property is threatened.

In cases where there exists no such risk, you will represent firmly but temperately to the local authority that a right under Treaty has been violated, and you will demand redress.

When you have exhausted your efforts in vain, you will send me a detailed statement of the case, accompanied by the Chinese text of your correspondence

* See "Papers relating to China," presented to the House of Commons in pursuance of their Address of April 8, 1862; No. 8.

with the local authorities. It is of importance that the case should be so complete as to leave no loophole to the Foreign Board at Peking for requiring further information from the local authority.

It will be well to communicate officially to the Chinese authority that you are about to bring the case under my notice, should he wish to make any representation to his Government on the case.

I must warn you against the assumption that because a violation of right has been committed, you are justified in obtaining redress for it by force. The Consul is not entitled to call in the aid of Her Majesty's naval forces except in the cases above alluded to. Illegal exactions, to levy which sailing craft are sometimes detained, which detention has been frequently removed by calling in the aid of Her Majesty's naval forces, can always be paid under protest, and the necessity of violent proceedings be thus avoided.

The desirable object to be attained is that of forcing the local officials to observe the Treaty, and protect Her Majesty's subjects in the exercise of their privileges, through the pressure brought to bear upon them by the Peking Government, and thus to escape from the false position in which we have hitherto been placed, of coercing the local authorities and people, and thus doing the work of the Imperial Government. The Government must be made to feel that the responsibility of the acts of its officers falls upon it. To initiate this new system of relations is a task which can only be effected gradually and patiently, but the attempt must be steadily and perseveringly made, in order that the Chinese Government may be forced to teach its people that Treaties are recognized by it as the laws which are to regulate the relations of Chinese with foreigners.

I am, &c.

(Signed) **FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.**

Inclosure 4 in No. 61.

Mr. Bruce to Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope.

Sir,

Peking, September 6, 1862.

I THINK it advisable to transmit to you copy of a circular which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Consuls in China, pursuant to instructions I have received from Her Majesty's Government.

The principle laid down for their guidance is, that redress for illegal acts is not to be sought for by force by the Consul, unless the lives and property of Her Majesty's subjects, at the ports, are endangered by violence. When illegal exactions are levied, they are to be paid under protest; and in such cases, as well as in the numerous instances of evasion and delay practised by the provincial authorities, the particulars are to be reported to me, and I shall endeavour, before proceeding further, to obtain satisfaction in a regular manner, through the Imperial Government.

It is very desirable that the Chinese Government should be induced to force its officers to act up to the spirit of the Treaty with Great Britain, so as to relieve the Naval Commander-in-chief from the necessity of constantly stationing vessels of war up the unhealthy rivers in China; and I think there is more likelihood of obtaining this result, and of foreigners acting in a considerate and courteous manner, if they find that the Consul is not empowered to support them by an appeal to Her Majesty's naval forces, unless in exceptional cases. In the existing state of China, it may sometimes be necessary to bring a perverse provincial authority to reason by a menacing demonstration, but this step should not be taken until I have had the opportunity of trying the effect of remonstrances at Peking. If they fail, I shall apply to the Admiral, who will be able to judge, on a full statement of the circumstances, how far the presence of a superior officer, or of a more imposing force, may be required to bring the matter in question to a satisfactory conclusion. In short, except in the case of immediate danger to life and property, I do not think that proceedings of the nature of reprisals, or acts of war, should be taken without previous reference to the Minister.

I have, &c.

(Signed) **FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.**

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received November 20.)

My Lord,

Peking, September 8, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch addressed by me to Mr. Medhurst, on the position of the so-called foreign concessions at Chinese ports, and instructing him, in considering the land-regulations, to deal with them in accordance with the views therein laid down.

I am desirous of being informed whether your Lordship considers them to be correct.

I shall suspend any further action with respect to this question until I receive your Lordship's reply.

I am inclined to think that many of the difficulties might be removed were the assistance of the Chinese authorities invoked instead of repudiated. It might be advisable to take in some of the land situated on the river bank, which may be required for the purposes of trade; but I question the expediency of lodging a power in the hands of anybody at Shanghai to add indefinitely to the Settlement. The effect would be to encourage speculation in land, and to swell to any amount the Chinese population within our limits, whose presence there is the source of all the embarrassments complained of.

I have, &c.

(Signed) **FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.**

Inclosure in No. 62.

Mr. Bruce to Consul Medhurst.

Sir,

Peking, September 8, 1862.

WITH reference to your letter on the proposals made for the management of Shanghai, I have to observe that there is great misapprehension of the position of these so-called foreign concessions.

The British concession at Shanghai was neither a transfer nor a lease of the land in question to the British Crown. It was simply an agreement that British subjects should be allowed to acquire land for their personal accommodation within a certain space, in order that they might have the advantage of living together.

The land so acquired remains Chinese territory; it is subject to the land-tax; and if the jurisdiction of the Chinese Government over it is denied, it is denied because in China it was deemed essential for the security of British trade that the person and establishment of the trader should be secured from molestation.

But the character of the concession has been entirely altered by the acts of the foreigners themselves. Instead of being a foreign Settlement it has become a Chinese city, in which a few foreigners reside amidst a large Chinese population. The security and comfort which were supposed to be derived from isolating the foreign community have been sacrificed, and land has been acquired not for the legitimate purpose of accommodating foreigners, but in order to build on it Chinese houses, which are tenanted by Chinamen at high rates, attracted by the protection our bayonets afford, and by immunity from natural authorities,

This system it is proposed to extend as far as it may suit the interest or convenience of parties on the spot; and it appears that the Chinese population so collected is to be exterritorialized, as well as the land they occupy, and the Chinese Governor is to be deprived of his power of dealing with them; they are to be taxed for municipal purposes, and his interference is to be limited to judging and punishing them in cases which the foreign head of the nation to which the owner of the property occupied belongs, permits to be brought before his tribunal. The consummation of this system is to be the erection of Shanghai into a free port, with a mixed Consular and Municipal Government under the joint Protectorate of the Treaty Powers.

It is my duty to remind you that the Chinese Government has never formally abandoned its right over its own subjects; nor has Her Majesty's Government ever claimed or expressed any desire to exercise a Protectorate over them. The only case in which, consistently with the principles laid down for the guidance of Her

Majesty's authorities in this country, the Consul has a right to interfere, is where the Chinese is in the employ of a British firm, and where there is reason for believing that the arrest of the Chinese servant is an outrage through him on his employer. But it is the interests of the British subject, and not the Chinaman, which are protected.

I do not understand what interest Her Majesty's Government has in lending itself to a system which is unjustifiable in principle, and which would be attended with endless embarrassment and responsibility, and which the Chinese Government would never submit to willingly. Great Britain has no interest except in providing a secure place for British trading establishments, and whatever inconveniences may arise from the conversion of the Settlement into a Chinese town, I do not think that Her Majesty's Government will be induced to make a remedy for them by extending its jurisdiction over a large section of the Chinese population. Because we protect Shanghai from falling a prey to a horde of brigands, it does not follow that we are prepared to interfere with the natural relation of the Chinese to their own Government.

I must impress upon you most strongly the importance of not lending yourself to any proposal which will lead, however indirectly, to such serious alterations in our position in China as are evidently contemplated by some of the residents at Shanghai. I am convinced that Her Majesty's Government would wish to see the limits of the so-called concession reduced so as to exclude the Chinese, rather than extended so as to embrace a greater number of them. Our interests in China are trade and pacific relations with the authorities, and I know no more fertile source of misunderstanding than the collection of Chinese within our limits. This is not a question that affects Shanghai alone, it affects our relations with the whole Chinese Empire; and considering the effect of our example, it is of the utmost importance that we should take no step which cannot be defended upon sound international principle.

I request you to re-consider the land regulations with reference to the principles laid down in this despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

No. 63.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received November 20.)

My Lord,

Peking, September 10, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to forward an extract from a despatch from Mr. Lay, who has officiated for several months as Interpreter on board Her Majesty's vessel of war stationed off Nanking, and has consequently a considerable knowledge of what is passing there. He succeeded Mr. Forrest, and holds the same language as to the disunion among the rebels.

In addition to the forces which are mentioned as concentrating on Nanking, a squadron of forty junks has been fitted out at Canton to join the fleet on the Yang-tze. Had the Chinese Government a few gun-boats, properly commanded, Nanking could not hold out.

Your Lordship will see that the Imperial Government is directing its main efforts against the head-quarters of the insurrectionary force, and you will be able to estimate at their just value the statements that the revenue received by the Chinese authorities is appropriated by them, and is not applied to the necessities of the State; the conclusion being that we should decline paying duties any longer, and assume the administration and defence of the ports into our own hands. The foreign communities would thus be able to raise a large revenue to lay out in local improvements, while the burden and expense of their protection would be thrown on foreign Powers.

In addition to the force operating on Nanking, San-wang (Sankolinsin) is at the head of an organized force, of which a considerable part is Mongol cavalry, with some batteries of artillery, and has made considerable progress in restoring order in Shantung and the neighbouring provinces; Shungpao, also, is advancing with a large force through Ngan-hwuy. Besides the disciplined forces which are being raised and equipped at Shanghai and Ningpo, the Imperialists have a large number of men on the frontiers of Fokien and Chekiang, to preserve those districts from the raids made by Tae-ping detachments in quest of plunder and food.

I am informed that the troops of Tsung Kwo-fan are armed with matchlocks, and I am glad to hear that the muskets which were destined for the insurgents and were seized are so bad that to render them serviceable they have been turned into matchlocks. The most important immediate service we could render the Chinese would be to teach them how to load their matchlocks properly. Such of their troops as I have seen have no accurate measure of the powder used, and have no idea of fitting the ball to the barrel. The task of reorganising the Chinese army is a slow one, and will only be done gradually, as the Chinese see the superiority of the men drilled at the ports. But it is more easy to improve their armament; good fire-arms, with artillery, and a squadron of gun-boats would give the Imperialists, even organised as they are, a great superiority over the insurgents. My efforts at present are directed to induce the Government to adopt these improvements, and to organise the garrisons of the ports, if possible, on the European plan.

I see no reason to change my opinion as to the resources of the Government being sufficient to put down the insurrection if they are properly applied. But their proper application depends mainly on the influence we can exercise on the Imperial Government at Peking. To obtain that influence, and to use it to that end, is the object I pursue; for I am convinced that the interests of trade will be far more advanced by this course than by attempting to wrest from the weakness of this Government petty commercial advantages beyond what is conceded by Treaty and thereby weakening its confidence in my loyalty and good faith.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK. W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure in No. 63.

Mr. Lay to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.)

Silver Island, August 10, 1862.

AT the present time the Imperialists are besieging Nanking, and many months may elapse before peace is restored there. The land force of the Imperialists encamped outside the South Gate when we quitted Nanking amounted to 40,000 men, but we heard news that there were to be 115,000 men in all to attack the place. There is also a large force of war-boats amounting to 400 or 500 in number in the vicinity of Nanking, but the formidable nature of the rebel batteries prevents them from coming too near. The inertness of the Imperialists for the past few months is owing to their having been awaiting the arrival of the full number of troops. Ning-kwo (fu) having fallen, a great part of the supplies to the rebels will be cut off, and when Sungpa and Chüzing Tsien follow, it seems from accounts that they will be entirely obstructed. There is a plentiful supply of rice in the city, but a great scarcity of it outside. There is much disaffection amongst the rebels themselves, and from the state and aspect of affairs it is not improbable that the Imperialists may eventually gain possession of Nanking. As I have stated above, several months may pass before the struggle between the rebels and Imperialists is decided.

No. 64.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received November 20.)

Sir,

Admiralty, November 14, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope dated the 30th of August, with copy of its inclosure from Commander Moresby, of Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Snake," reporting his proceedings in destroying four piratical junks on the coast of China.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 64.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

My Lord,

"Impérieuse," Che-foo, August 30, 1862.

HEREWITH I forward for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the copy of a letter from Commander John Moresby, of Her Majesty's ship "Snake," dated the 12th instant, detailing the destruction of four piratical junks, and I have much pleasure in drawing their Lordships' attention to Commander Moresby's favourable report of the good conduct of his officers and crew, as well as the good judgment he displayed on this occasion.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HOPE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 64.

Commander Moresby to Captain Nolloth.

(Extract.)

"Snake," at Hong Kong, August 12, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to report to you my proceedings whilst engaged in searching for the missing boat's crew belonging to the English ship "Lord of the Isles."

In compliance with directions received from you I received on board a pilot and an interpreter, and left Hong Kong on the 5th instant, proceeded to Macao, communicating with Her Majesty's Vice-Consul, and found that nothing was known of the missing boat.

On the 6th, 7th, and 8th instant we made a strict examination of the coasts and islands between Macao, Tien-pak, and the north-east coast of Hainan, boarding junks, and visiting the mandarin cities of Hailing and Tien-pak, as also the Tayu Island and Mount Tongeon (Hainan).

At a small junk-harbour under the north side of Mount Tongeon, we learnt that two English boats had put in there, taken a supply of water, and then stood away to the eastward. Knowing this to be true as regards the mate's boat, it was reasonable to suppose it correct as regards the missing boat; I therefore on the evening of the 8th instant left Hainan, and proceeded towards St. John's Island.

On the 9th instant, at 10 A.M., while entering Sandy Bay, St. John's Island, saw five large junks at the entrance of the bay. On perceiving the "Snake," two separated from the others, and made for different points of land. The three larger ones (one a lorcha junk) took up a position in a small creek in the shoal water of Sandy Bay.

I sent the boats on shore (accompanying them myself) to obtain information of the missing boat. On nearing the three larger junks above mentioned, they opened a heavy fire on the boats. They (the junks) were evidently pirates. I returned the fire with our rifles, but their guns swept all the approaches, and there being a large number of men on shore to support the pirates, I determined on returning to the ship, in the hope of contriving some means to punish them for the insult offered to our flag.

Our two small gigs and eight-oared cutter would not have contended, with any chance of success, against such a force so strongly placed. On regaining the ship we cut off one of the other pirate-junks which was attempting to escape under the land. This prize I converted into a temporary gun-boat, arming her with our two 12-pounder brass howitzers, and then returned to Sandy Bay to prevent the escape of the other pirates.

With the evening tide I attempted to destroy the other separated junk, but the boats grounded half-a-mile from the pirate, and night coming on we were compelled to retire, the junk keeping a tolerably correct fire upon us until we were out of range.

On the 10th, at daylight, favoured by a high spring tide, I brought the "Snake" into the Bay, so as to open out the largest junk, and within 1,200 yards. After having fired upon her for some time, I took the command of our armed prize, and proceeded off the entrance of the creek, engaging the three junks with our howitzers and rifles with good effect.

We maintained a superior fire, and (aided by the ship firing on the outer junk) nearly silenced the pirate. I then made preconcerted signal for Lieutenant Streeten to land with the small-armed men (twenty-two in number), so as to take the pirates on the flank whilst we engaged them in front, but recalled him on finding that our armed prize was too unmanageable to support the landing party before repairing damages.

We (the junk) had been hulled in several places, were making water; the howitzer had broken through the decks, carried away the beams, and could only be fired occasionally by propping them up with bags of coal, which had been used as a defence against the pirates' fire.

The pirates' fire had been most ably sustained, and their chief, apparently dressed as a European, seemed to be such.

Lieutenant Streeten then asked my permission to bring the ship closer in; the bottom being composed of soft yielding mud, he thought it could be done. This he carefully succeeded in doing to within 800 yards of the two outermost junks, which were both shortly in flames fore and aft from the fire of our shell, and completely destroyed.

The loss of life to the pirates must have been great. They fought with unusual constancy, firing at the ship and junk (the prize) until their guns were dismounted. Provisionally we had not a man touched.

The tide was now falling rapidly. I had to take the "Snake" into deeper water, still leaving one junk comparatively uninjured in the creek.

On the 11th, at daylight, I sent a boat to reconnoitre, which reported that the pirates had apparently abandoned their position, and that the third junk was no longer in the creek. To prevent a surprise, I landed with the small-armed men at the foot of a hill, the summit of which commanded the creek. Gaining the summit, found the third junk still in the creek, but carefully concealed with green bushes. We drove the remaining pirates away with a sharp rifle fire, and then totally burnt and destroyed their junk, returning to the ship as the tide began to fall. During the night they (the pirates) had removed their guns and the killed, excepting one, who probably was too badly wounded to be moved, and had been left to die, with some water placed by his lips.

The only remaining junk had in the meantime hauled into a position at the head of a long narrow channel cut through the dense mangrove bushes. On reconnoitring this channel it was found to be barricaded and well defended by the junks' guns and a large number of pirates. Our boats would have had to attack totally unsupported by the ship, and our prize was no longer serviceable. I therefore considered the object not worth the risk of the loss of valuable lives, and left her untouched; judging, also, that the pirates had received a severe punishment for the indignity they had offered our flag.

My best thanks are due to every officer and man employed in this service. I desire to call attention especially to the skill and judgment shown by Lieutenant Streeten (during my absence in the prize) in bringing the "Snake" safely into a position of one foot less water than her draft, thereby enabling me to report the total destruction of four large piratical junks, and the killing of many pirates, without a casualty on our side.

The neighbouring villages were evidently accomplices of the pirates, and aided them in every possible way; but as they could be punished at any time, at the discretion of the Commander-in-chief, I did not feel myself justified in destroying them without express so to do.

We left Sandy Bay on the 11th instant, and I beg to report my arrival this day at Hong Kong.

Consul Medhurst to Earl Russell.—(Received November 20.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, September 18, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, copy of a despatch addressed by me to Mr. Bruce on the 11th instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure in No. 65.

Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.)

Shanghai, September 11, 1862.

GENERAL WARD, whom I saw yesterday, tells me that the rebels have concentrated themselves on Soo-chow again, owing to some panic caused by an Imperialist success near Nanking; but I don't know how far this information is to be relied on. The daily reports sent in by the local authorities still make the rebels out to be in the vicinity. A Belgian adventurer came in a day or two ago from Soo-chow, where he said he had been trading, and he reports that the rebels there give it out as their intention to make another attempt on Shanghai when the crops are ripe, and never to cease their endeavours until they succeed. He also says that he saw two Europeans in the city who spoke of having done a paying business in arms and ammunition, and they told him too that four of the sepoys who were made prisoners at the capture of the field-piece in May last, are now alive and at Soo-chow.

No. 66.

Earl Russell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 25, 1862.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th of September, and I have to state to you that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve the despatch of which a copy is therein inclosed, and which you have addressed to Mr. Consul Medhurst, on the position of the so-called foreign concessions at Chinese ports.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

RUSSELL.

No. 67.

Earl Russell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 25, 1862.

HER Majesty's Government entirely concur in your views, as stated in your despatch of the 8th of September, as to the inexpediency of Her Majesty's Consuls calling for the aid of Her Majesty's naval forces in the case of disputed questions with the local authorities which admit of being referred to you at Peking, and they approve the circular which you have addressed to Her Majesty's Consuls on this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

RUSSELL.

No. 68.

Earl Russell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 26, 1862.

I HAVE received from Mr. Medhurst a copy of his despatch to you of the 11th of September; and with reference to the reported intention of the Tae-pings to possess themselves of Shanghai at all hazards, I have to state to you that it is clear the Tae-pings must not be allowed to approach Shanghai. Their habits of pillage and murder would soon put an end to the trade of that city, and make our Treaty rights null and void for any practical purpose. The depopulation of Ningpo during its occupation by the Tae-pings, and the return of the inhabitants, with a resumption of habits of industry, and a feeling of security when the Tae-pings retired, shows the effect of Tae-ping occupation.

Her Majesty's Government have clearly the right to enforce the conditions of the Treaty of Tien-tsin. If rebels against the Emperor's authority had occupied the Treaty ports, and had taken upon themselves to perform faithfully those conditions, Her Majesty's Government would have abstained from showing any favour to one side or the other. But facts have proved that a resident population, security for persons and property, the pursuits of industry, and the prosecution of trade, are incompatible with the occupation of a town by the bands of murderers and robbers who are called Tae-pings.

Still our interference must be confined to the defence of the Treaty ports and their neighbourhood, and of the British merchants and property residing or contained in those ports.

It would be contrary to the wishes and instructions of Her Majesty's Government if any of Her Majesty's naval, military, or civil authorities were to sanction any general interference in the hostilities carried on between the Imperial Government and the Tae-pings. Horrible as the proceedings of the Tae-pings are, murdering as they do men, women, and children wherever they go, it is for the Imperial authorities, and not for Her Majesty's Government, to protect the subjects of the Emperor from Tae-ping atrocities.

You will be careful, therefore, to distinguish those cases in regard to which we have a right and an obligation from those in which we have neither. You will call upon Her Majesty's naval and military forces to protect the Treaty ports, but not to take part in the operations of war at places distant from those ports.

British officers who have lately entered the service of the Emperor of China will probably be partly employed in suppressing piracy, and in so doing they will render a great service not only to the Chinese, but also to all nations carrying on trade with China.

The limit of thirty miles from the Treaty ports is, of course, a conventional limit not strictly applicable to every Treaty port. A limit of ten miles, or even less, might in some instances be as wide a range as it may be necessary or practicable to defend.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 69.

Earl Russell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 26, 1862.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 15th of August and its inclosure, and I have to state to you that Her Majesty's Government entirely agree in the view you take of the course reported by Lieutenant Poole to have been pursued by the merchants at Hankow, in regard to the lots appropriated for the British location. Where the merchants refuse any facilities to Her Majesty's officers, or attempt to contravene Treaties, they must be told that Her Majesty's Mission cannot afford them the protection which, in other circumstances, would willingly be given.

You will address a circular in this sense to Her Majesty's Consuls in China.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 70.

Earl de Grey and Ripon to Mr. Hammond.—(Received November 27.)

Sir,

War Office, November 27, 1862.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir George Lewis to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Russell, the inclosed copy of a despatch, dated 18th September, from Brigadier-General Staveley, forwarding a Report from Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas, 67th Regiment, of the reappearance in the neighbourhood of Shanghae of some bands of Rebels, and of the steps taken for their dispersion by that officer.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DE GREY AND RIPON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 70.

Brigadier-General Staveley to Sir G. C. Lewis.

Sir,

Head-Quarters, Shanghae, September 18, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to report that during my absence at Japan, whither I had gone for five weeks for the benefit of my health, some bands of rebels appeared in the vicinity of Shanghae for the purpose of plunder. Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas, 67th Regiment, the Commandant of Shanghae, moved out against them, and the result of his operations has been that they have disappeared from the neighbourhood.

I inclose Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas' report of his proceedings, which appear to me to have been well considered, and acted on with much judgment.

It was my intention to have proceeded to Hong Kong, which garrison I have not had an opportunity of visiting since I was appointed to this command: but as it is just possible that when the crops are being gathered the rebels may again be tempted to visit the neighbourhood for plunder, I shall defer my visit to some future time.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. STAVELEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 70.

Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas to Deputy Adjutant-General Mansergh.

Sir,

Shanghae, September 17, 1862.

IN compliance with instructions received through you, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Brigadier-General commanding Her Majesty's forces in China, the following report of the recent operations against the Tae-ping rebels in the vicinity of this place.

On the 22nd August, a report was received through Mr. Medhurst, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, that a considerable body of rebels had occupied Sin-ching, a town about four miles north-west of Fah-wah, and towards the Soo-chow creek. A reconnaissance* was made in the afternoon, and it was ascertained that though the rebels had appeared in the vicinity of Sin-ching, they had been fired upon by the Imperialists encamped at that place, and had retired to Ya-ka-toon and Cunjow, about five miles to the north-west of Sin-ching.

On the morning of the 24th August, numerous parties of rebels appeared in the neighbourhood of Fah-wah, and spreading over the country to the north and east of Fah-wah, commenced plundering and burning the small villages and farm buildings on the south of the Soo-chow creek. Captain Mitchell, 31st Regiment, commanding the detachment at Fah-wah, having reported these circumstances, and requested instructions, I ordered Major Stafford, commanding 22nd Punjaub Native Infantry, to reinforce Fah-wah with 300 of his regiment, and directed Major Taylor, commanding 5th Bombay Native Light Infantry, to patrol along the right bank of the Soo-chow creek, with 100 men from the Stone Bridge, replacing them by a party of similar strength from Glass' Post, while I proceeded in person to Fah-wah.

* Shanghae Rangers, 10; 31st Regiment, 80.

On arriving at Fah-wah, I was informed that the rebels had actually pursued some villagers as far as the quarter-guard of the detachment, and that Captain Mitchell had taken out eighty men of the 31st, to drive the rebels away from his immediate vicinity, as his post would have been rendered insecure, or at least have been much incommoded, had the rebels been given time to set fire to the village.

They did not, however, await the approach of the detachment, but fled with precipitation, and the party returned to Fah-wah, having pursued the rebels for nearly a mile.

The 22nd Punjaub Native Infantry, under Major Stafford, had meanwhile arrived at Fah-wah; they marched with great expedition, having received their orders to march at 10.30 A.M., and reaching Fah-wah at 12.15 A.M.

There being no large party of rebels in sight, and the weather being extremely hot, I judged it expedient not to undertake a pursuit, which would have probably proved fruitless, and would have been very fatiguing to the troops; I therefore directed the 22nd to return to Shanghae.

On the 25th, the rebels were seen wandering about the country, in small parties only; but on the morning of the 26th large bands of them surrounded Fah-wah, without actually attacking it, although they plundered villages close to the detachment.

Other bands pushed on to the Bubbling Well and towards the Stone Bridge, and a party of rebels actually put to flight the coolies carrying out rations to Fah-wah, and the rations were only saved by a detachment of the 31st being sent out from Fah-wah, who drove away the rebels and recovered the rations. Lieutenant McIntyre, 31st Regiment, who was sent in from Fah-wah to report what was taking place, had difficulty in making his way through the rebels, who occupied the main road and forced him to take to the fields.

On the receipt of the above information, and considering it absolutely necessary to clear the country near Shanghae and the outposts, I gave the following orders:—

Two hundred and fifty of the 22nd Punjaub Native Infantry, under Major Stafford, to march immediately (10 A.M.) and reinforce Fah-wah. The remainder of the 22nd, deducting pickets, a relief for the guards, and any weakly men, to march at 1.30 P.M. to the Bubbling Well and there take post, so as to cover the main road and keep open the communications.

The 31st Regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Eagar, with the exception of two companies, the pickets, a relief for the guards, and any weakly men, to march at 1.30 P.M. to the Bubbling Well, there to await orders. The pickets to occupy their posts, and the inlying picket of fifty men to reinforce the main Woo-sung picket, and protect the American Settlement, in case any straggling parties of rebels should appear in that quarter.

The 67th Regiment, deducting the pickets, a relief for the guards, and weakly men, to march to Fah-wah at 1.30 P.M.

A patrol of 100 men of the 5th Bengal Native Infantry, with one mountain howitzer, under Major Taylor, to be in readiness to move from the Stone Bridge, and to be replaced by 100 of the 5th Bengal Native Infantry from Glass' post.

Two Armstrong guns and one mountain howitzer, escorted by a company of the 31st Regiment, to proceed to the Bubbling Well, whence the two Armstrong guns were to be sent to Fah-wah. The hospital field equipment and doolies to accompany this party.

Thirty men of the Royal Engineers, under Captain Gordon, in boats, to move up the Soo-chow Creek, and endeavour to destroy a bridge which the rebels were stated to have thrown across the creek, about a mile and a half above the Stone Bridge. This party was to be escorted by a company of the 31st Regiment, marching along the left bank of the creek.

My object was to press the rebels on to the Soo-chow Creek, by means of three small columns operating simultaneously: one under Lieutenant-Colonel Eagar, composed of the head-quarters of the 31st Regiment, a company of the 22nd Punjaub Native Infantry, and one mountain howitzer,* to move from the Bubbling-Well Village and march to the north, where a large force of rebels with many banners was clearly to be seen. This column was not to advance until firing should be heard from the Fah-wah column on its left.

The patrol† under Major Taylor was to move to the west, along the right

* 31st Regiment, 97; 22nd Punjaub Native Infantry, 70; 1 howitzer.

† 5th Bengal Native Infantry, 100; 1 howitzer.

bank of the Soo-chow Creek, and to prevent the rebels from escaping in that direction.

The principal column, under my own orders, composed of the 67th Regiment under Captain Stack, the 22nd Punjaub Native Infantry, and a portion of the detachment of the 31st Regiment,* with two howitzers from Fah-wah manned by the Royal Artillery, marched from Fah-wah at 3.30 P.M., and moved along the Sin-ching road, which, though narrow, is tolerably good. After proceeding about a mile and a half, a body of rebels was observed retiring towards Sin-ching, and apparently unconnected with the main body seen near the Bubbling Well. As my object was if possible, to intercept the latter force, and to drive them back on the Soo-chow Creek, when I had every reason to believe they would find their bridge destroyed by the Royal Engineers, I contented myself with causing the rebels in front to be observed by a party of the 31st Regiment, who no sooner were thrown into skirmishing order than the rebels fled with all haste. I continued following the Sin-ching road for half-a-mile further, when it being half-past 4 P.M., I directed the head of the column to quit the road, and, changing direction to the right, turn to the eastward, so as to co-operate with the movements of the columns from the Stone Bridge and the Bubbling Well, thereby taking the main body of the rebels in flank. The country being very difficult for guns, owing to the high crops and numerous paddy fields, the two mountain howitzers were left under escort, so as to enable the Infantry to push on as rapidly as possible.

I had the less apprehension in leaving the guns, as a French column, composed of 300 Chasseurs and sailors, with two mountain howitzers,† under the command of M. le Capitaine Faucon, commanding the French Naval Forces in the China Seas, was moving at a mile's distance from my former left rear, and, consequently, would completely cover the guns, as M. Faucon had kindly offered to cover my left flank throughout the operation. After moving to the east towards the Soo-chow Creek for about a mile, the main body of the rebels were discovered, seemingly drawn up to resist our advance.

Keeping the column as much concealed from observation as possible, a company of the 67th was sent to turn the enemy's right flank, and drive them back on the other columns. On the advance of this company in skirmishing order, it was discovered that the main body of the rebels was on the north side of the Soo-chow Creek, whose close proximity had remained unsuspected, owing to the flatness and inclosed nature of the country, together with the high crops which prevented the creek from being seen until the skirmishers were within a hundred yards of it. Meanwhile, the remainder of the rebels had hastened across a bridge, which it was now discovered they had formed a little lower down the creek, and about five miles above the Stone Bridge. A second bridge had been made about half-a-mile lower down the creek, but had been either dismantled or destroyed by the rebels. The skirmishers of the 67th Regiment kept up for a few minutes a sharp fire, which was but feebly replied to by the enemy, who had evidently few fire-arms. The 67th suffered no casualty. What the rebels' loss may have been I am unable to state, as I did not consider it advisable to cross the creek in pursuit, the men being much fatigued by their march from Shanghae, and by their having had to move across a very heavy country.

Lieutenant-Colonel Eagar's column now made its appearance, having had a slight skirmish with the rebels, who as usual fled away, leaving their baggage behind them.

As the rebels appeared to have entirely abandoned the country between Fah-wah, the Bubbling Well, the Stone Bridge, and Soo-chow Creek, I decided on returning to Shanghae.

Major Taylor's column did not meet any of the rebels, and Captain Gordon, after proceeding three or four miles up the Soo-chow Creek, and not finding any bridge, also returned. Had the information received regarding the position of the bridge been more accurate, so that steps might have been taken to destroy it, our object of driving the rebels into the creek would have been attained; as it is, however, they have not re-appeared near Fah-wah, and the country round Shanghae is perfectly undisturbed.

On the same day (26th August), Sin-ching was surrounded by the rebels, and General Ward, of the Chinese service, arranged to bring up his forces from Sung-keong, for its relief.

* 31st Regiment, 80; 67th Regiment, 160; 22nd Punjaub Native Infantry, 250; 2 howitzers.

† 300 French, 2 howitzers.

I arranged, in conjunction with M. Faucon, to support this movement, while leaving General Ward to make his own arrangements for the relief of Sin-ching.

Further operations, were, however, rendered unnecessary, as the Taoutae's troops reinforced the Imperialists encamped at Sin-ching on the 27th of August, and after a combat of some hours' duration forced the rebels to retreat.

On the 28th, M. Faucon, who had brought up the whole of his disposable force to Siccaway, marched in search of the rebels, and pursued them for several miles. I inclose a letter from M. Faucon, giving an account of his operations.

The result of these movements has been, that since the 26th of August, the rebels have not re-crossed the Soo-chow Creek, having removed their bridge; confidence has been restored, and the fugitives (many thousands in number), from the neighbouring villages have returned to their homes.

I must observe, in conclusion, that I was unwilling to take the initiative against the Tae-pings until some overt act of aggression was committed against either of the allied forces, as I considered my instructions confined me to the defence of Shanghai and the outposts; and I had, moreover, informed the Taoutae through Mr. Medhurst, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, that our troops could not be employed in hunting down marauding parties, a duty which peculiarly devolved upon the Chinese Government, and for which they have available 10,000 of their own soldiers.

Had I even been disposed or had I considered myself at liberty to pursue the rebels, the great heat of the weather and the bad health of the troops would have deterred me from doing so. On the 26th of August, however, when the rebels attacked the ration party and advanced to the Bubbling Well, the case became different, and I took the steps already described, which I trust may meet the approbation of the Brigadier-General Commanding, and the results of which, I think, may be considered satisfactory.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. THOMAS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 70.

Captain Faucon (French Navy) to Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas.

M. le Colonel,

A bord de la " Renommée," le 30 Août, 1862.

J'AI l'honneur de vous faire savoir que, le 28 de ce mois, notre colonne, forte de 500 hommes et de 6 pièces d'artillerie, est partie de Si-ka-we un peu avant le jour. Mon but, en faisant cette expédition, était de tâcher de rencontrer les rebelles, que des renseignements donnés par les Révérends Pères Jésuites m'avaient annoncé devoir être groupés en masse à Onchio, sur le bord du canal. Nous n'avons rien vu à Onchio, et, après avoir longé les bords du canal, vers 9 heures nous avons occupé le village de Po-sin-kien. Vers 3 heures du soir, nous aperçûmes à mille mètres environ une forte colonne de rebelles qui manœuvrait pour investir les camps impériaux situés entre le canal et Psou-sin-kien.

Nous marchâmes aussitôt contre eux en bataille, et masqués par quelques bouquets de bois nous pûmes les attaquer à cinquante mètres et en tuer une douzaine. Malheureusement leur terreur fut si grande qu'ils s'enfuirent à toutes jambes dans toutes les directions et nous ne pûmes faire que sept prisonniers. Les fuyards repassèrent le canal et vinrent se masser sur les collines de Kochen.

Nous occupâmes les bords du canal. Je me bornai pour le soir à une reconnaissance et remis au lendemain une attaque à fond, que l'excessive fatigue de notre monde de me permettait pas d'entreprendre le soir même. Vers cinq heures et demie du soir on tira deux coups de canon sur nos avant-postes, mais cinq obus lancés sur leurs masses les déterminèrent à abandonner la position. Le lendemain matin plusieurs vinrent ou se rendre ou se faire prendre par nous, et j'ai appris par eux que tout le gros des rebelles s'est replié sur Kading. Hier soir, je suis rentré à Si-ka-we avec vingt-quatre prisonniers.

Les populations paraissent assez rassurées et je crois qu'en faisant encore quelques mouvements semblables, nous arriverons à dégouter les rebelles de passer le canal.

J'ai, &c.
(Signé) CH. FAUCON.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received November 29.)

Sir,

Admiralty, November 27, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, dated the 1st of October, with copies of its inclosures from Captain Dew, of Her Majesty's ship "Encounter," reporting the circumstances attending the capture of Yu-yaou, its subsequent defence against an attack of Chinese rebels, and the recapture of Tsekie.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 71.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

My Lord,

"Impérieuse," Woo-sung, October 1, 1862.

HEREWITH I forward copies of letters addressed to me by Captain Dew, of Her Majesty's ship "Encounter," of date of the 4th August and 23rd September last, detailing the capture of Yu-yaou, its subsequent defence against a rebel attack, and the recapture of Tsekie; and I have much pleasure in again drawing their Lordships' attention to the marked ability and zeal of this officer, and the good conduct of Lieutenant A. G. Bogle, of the "Hardy," and the other officers and men who have been engaged in these operations.

2. It is with much regret that I have to acquaint their Lordships with the death of Colonel Ward, who was mortally wounded at the recapture of Tsekie, by which event the Chinese Government have lost an able and gallant officer who had served them well, and whom it will not be easy to replace.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HOPE.

Shanghai, October 6, 1862.

P.S.—I add a copy of a despatch from Captain Dew of the 3rd instant, received yesterday, from which their Lordships will observe that Captain Dew has delivered over the charge of Ningpo to Colonel Forrester, of Ward's corps, which officer will be able, besides maintaining possession of the city and its outlying ports, to turn his attention to clear the neighbouring country of marauders.

J. H.

Inclosure 2 in No. 71.

Captain Dew to Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope.

Sir,

"Encounter," Ningpo river, August 4, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, for the health of the crew, I moved the "Encounter" to an anchorage under the hills between Ningpo and Yu-yaou on the 30th ultimo.

You are aware, Sir, that since the rebels were driven out of Ningpo in May last, I have been obliged (to save from destruction the villages on this vast plain) to keep a force near Yu-yaou to turn them in that town.

At the earnest request of the Taoutae and Chinese officials at Ningpo, and with your own permission to act as I thought best for the safety of that city, I determined to attempt the capture of Yu-yaou, which city, from its position in the gorge of the hills, is the key to Ningpo, and so long as the rebels held it, confidence would never be restored in Ningpo.

I moved up the river with French steamer "Confucius," and gun-boat "Hardy," with 40 of "Encounter's" small-arm men, and 1,000 of Ward's and French drilled Chinese troops, and about 1,500 Canton men, on the 31st; it being my intention, if possible, to make the Imperial troops capture the city, and giving only moral support by our presence.

On the morning of the 1st instant I landed the European drilled troops, with orders to take the joss-house hill which commanded the city; in attempting to cross a bridge they were repulsed, and after six hours' fighting had to fall back on their boats, with a loss of 150 men and 8 officers killed and wounded.

On the 2nd I landed all the Canton men, and took from the rebels a hill near the town. Skirmishing went on for several hours; the rebels in force (about 8,000) always driving the Imperialists back to the foot of the hill, when shell from "Hardy," smashing the heads of their columns, caused them to retire.

At 2 P.M. I formed the European-drilled Chinese in rear of Imperialist troops, and having rendered "Hardy" bullet-proof with cotton bales, steamed into the heart of the rebel defences, doing much execution with shell and musketry; at the same time all overland forces advanced, a panic ensued amongst the rebels, our troops passing into city gates after them, and in an hour Yu-yaou was Imperial, with a loss of a trifling nature.

Frederick Patterson, coxswain of the pinnace, the only man exposed when steering his boat, received a rifle-ball in his arm.

I shall keep the garrison of Yu-yaou at 1,000 European-drilled Chinese, half of Ward's, and half French, and have placed the Imperial troops in camp on river, half-a-mile above the city.

The city of Yu-yaou, with walls three miles in circumference, I found, like Ningpo, was a ruined and deserted camp, no inhabitants allowed inside the walls, and all the houses, except those of the Chiefs, plundered, and furniture converted into firewood. Great numbers of Chinese returned to the city to find in their once happy home nothing left but the bare walls.

There was a fair amount of rice and live stock in the city, plundered from the neighbouring villages.

I was ably assisted in these operations by Lieutenant de vaisseau La Brethon de Coligny, commanding "Confucius," and Lieutenant and Commander Bogle, of "Hardy;" and it gives me much pleasure in bearing testimony to the zeal and activity this latter officer displayed on the occasion of the capture of Yu-yaou, and during the harassing operations on this river the last three trying months.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. DEW.

Inclosure 3 in No. 71.

Captain Dew to Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope.

(Extract.)

"Encounter," Ningpo, September 23, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to report proceedings since my letter of the 15th instant, a duplicate of which is forwarded to await your arrival at the Yang-tze light-ship.

On the 19th instant the rebels in force having failed in their attack on Yu-yaou, passed by the back of the hills and descended into the Ningpo plain, capturing the city of Tsekie from the mandarin soldiers, who made no defence.

General Ward arrived in "Confucius" on the 18th, and we at once made arrangements for the re-capture of this important city.

At daylight on the 20th I embarked General Ward and 150 of his men, and proceeded up the river abreast of Tsekie; on passing up found rebels to within three miles of Kampo (into the canal of which water had been let, acting as an admirable defence); a few shell sent them inland. At 9 A.M. General Ward landed with his men, and passed on to Tsekie, capturing the bridge without loss, and falling on many looting parties laden with plunder. "Hardy," with 800 of Ward's men, passed up canal, and joined General Ward at bridge. Rebels in and around city in force. It had been my intention to have joined General Ward at 5 A.M. on the 21st, but during the night received urgent entreaties to return to Ningpo, as the rebels had taken Fungwha and were advancing on Ningpo, at which place there was then no vessel of war. I returned to this anchorage at 7 A.M.

I inclose a report of the assault on and capture of Tsekie by Lieutenant and Commander Bogle, and the part the "Hardy" played reflects much credit on her commander. The rebels retreated over the hills towards Yu-yaou, having sustained much loss in men, flags, plunder, and 60 horses, and this noble plain was saved from the miscreants.

It is now my painful duty to inform you that General Ward, while directing the assault, fell mortally wounded. The "Hardy" brought him down the same evening to Ningpo, and he died the next morning in Dr. Parker's house.

During a short acquaintance with General Ward, I have learnt to appreciate him much, and I fear his death will cast a gloom over the Imperial cause in China, of which he was the stay and prop.

On the 22nd I passed up the Fungwha branch in "Hardy" to a bridge eight miles from Fungwha, but the rebels were confining themselves to burning in that neighbourhood; however, among other precautions, I placed the "Hardy" off south gate, and to-day all is quiet.

The panic caused in Ningpo and Kampo by these rebels' raids was indescribable; when the rebels were on the Kampo side half the population of Ningpo streamed into the settlement, and *vice versa* when the rebels were on the Fungwha; reason and proclamations were utterly lost, and I can only liken the scene to a disturbed ant's nest.

Having these cities on hand, with a force little exceeding 2,000 men, I have requested Colonel Forrester, who left in the "Confucius" last night with General Ward's remains, for Shanghai, to send me 400 men and 2 howitzers, and shall then be in force to act on the offensive if occasion should require. I have also asked Captain Borlase to send me a gun-boat, if one can be spared till these troubles pass away.

Inclosure 4 in No. 71.

Lieutenant-Commander Bogle to Captain Dew.

Sir,

"Hardy," September 21, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, in obedience to your instructions, I steamed up the Tsekia Creek and anchored within eighty yards of the first bridge, where I landed the troops embarked, who at once joined General Ward's advance party on the bridge.

Owing to the non-arrival of the "Confucius" with the 700 men from Yu-yaou, we delayed operations till this morning.

At 6 A.M. this day Major Martin, with 20 Ward's Chinese and 500 Yellow Turbans joined, and arrangements were made for the assault.

At 7:30 the "Hardy" opened fire on the West Gate at 1,000 yards with shell, while General Ward's force advanced at 8:30. Ward's troops scaled the walls and carried the city, when "Hardy" confined her fire to more distant ranges.

I regret to state that in the assault, when near the scaling ladders, General Ward received so dangerous a wound as to render his immediate removal to the gun-boat necessary, and placed the troops under the command of Major Morton.

I have much pleasure in drawing attention to the daring manner in which Mr. Vincenti (Ward's Orderly) first scaled the walls. I myself noticed that all the officers led their men over the ladders.

Captain Lynch, of the "Confucius," with his party, rendered good service in repelling an attempt on the part of the rebels, who had rallied, to re-capture the North Gate.

I cannot close this letter without bringing to your notice the great assistance rendered by Mr. John Cotter, boatswain, and Charles Pear, quartermaster, while detached for duty on shore.

I beg to inclose a list of the forces engaged and casualties.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. G. BOGLE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 71.

List of the Forces engaged at the Capture of Tse-chee, September 21, 1862.

Ward's Chinese troops	..	..	..	..	..	..	400
Ditto, Riflemen	..	..	..	..	..	..	50
Imperial braves, yellow turbans	..	..	..	..	..	..	400
Total Chinese	..	..	..	..	..	..	850

After first assault 30 Manilla men from steamer "Confucius," under her captain (Lynch).
Her Majesty's gun-boat "Hardy," covering.

<i>Casualties.</i>							
<i>Killed.</i>				<i>Wounded.</i>			
Manilla men	..	..	3	General Ward, dangerously	..	..	1
Ward's Chinese	..	..	3	Ward's Chinese troops	..	..	12
Total killed	..	..	6	Total wounded	..	..	13

Estimated loss of rebels in Tse-chee, 7,000.

(Signed) ARCHD. G. BOGLE, *Lieutenant and Commander.*

Inclosure 6 in No. 71.

Captain Dew to Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope.

(Extract.)

"Encounter," Ningpo, October 3, 1862.

THE arrival of the "Confucius" and "Flamer," with 500 of Ward's men and two field-guns, enabled me to relieve my men from duty on the walls of Ningpo, having found it necessary to land them, more to give confidence to the city people than any fear I had of attack from the marauding bands of the rebels that came within a mile of the city on the Fungwha side.

The fears of the people of Kampo, especially those of the foreigners, has caused them to agree to all my arrangements for defence of the Settlement, which I had urged in vain when rebels were at a distance. They have guaranteed 3,000 dollars per month for twelve months, and a guard-house for 150 men. Two stone batteries and a magazine are in course of construction.

On the 29th ultimo I visited Yu-yaou and Tsekia, and found all satisfactory. The latter place I handed over to 1,500 Imperialist troops, whereby Yu-yaou will be strengthened by 1,500 bayonets, and can act on the defensive.

Colonel Forrester arrived here to take command on the 1st instant, superseding Major Morton. Having your expressed wishes on the subject, and deeming after due consideration that the time had arrived when you would wish them carried out, I made over to Colonel Forrester the command of the city and Imperial troops, informing him at the same time that I should ever be ready with advice, and if necessary assistance, to forward the Imperial cause.

An expedition I had set on foot for the recapture of Fungwha Colonel Forrester will carry out, and when the weather clears up he will take the field with 900 men and 3 guns. When that city falls, and rebels find we are prepared on all points to act on the offensive, I anticipate no further trouble from them, and they must retire without the much wished for rice-crop now ripe on the ground.

No. 72.

Consul Medhurst to Earl Russell.—(Received December 3.)

(Extract.)

Shanghai, October 6, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch dated the 25th ultimo, addressed by me to Mr. Bruce.

Inclosure in No. 72.

Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.)

Shanghai, September 25, 1862.

THE military roads referred to in my despatch dated the 29th instant are now in the course of construction, and it will not be long before they are fit for the transport of troops and artillery in case of need.

Reports are rife that the rebels are all on the move at Soo-chow, Tsang-chow, Kwanshan, and the other towns they occupy, and preparing provisions, clothes, arms, boats, &c., for some grand foray; Shanghai being, as usual, named as their intended rendezvous. It is not improbable that parties will come in this direction in search of plunder and provender, but I doubt whether they will attempt more, I have at the request of General Staveley sent a note to the Chief at Soo-chow. making overtures for the ransom or exchange of the four sepoys mentioned in my previous despatch as being in captivity, but I am not sanguine of even getting an answer to the missive. Possibly the desire for opium and arms may prompt a demand for those much coveted articles as a consideration.

No. 73.

*Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.**

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 5, 1862.

I AM directed by Earl Russell to transmit to you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of a despatch which his Lordship has addressed to Her Majesty's Minister in China,† respecting the protection to be afforded by Her Majesty's naval and military forces to the Treaty ports.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 74.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received December 27.)

Sir,

Admiralty, December 26, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, an extract from a letter of Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, dated in October last, relating to the state of affairs in China, and inclosing a list of warlike stores smuggled ashore at Woo-sung by an American house for the use of the Tae-pings.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 74.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

"Coromandel," at Shanghai, October , 1862.

NO further disturbances have occurred either at Canton or in Japan, and the other commercial ports have remained in a state of tranquillity since I last wrote, except Ningpo, which has formed the subject of a separate communication.

I inclose a list of arms and other warlike stores which appear to have been smuggled ashore by a single American house, well known for their dealings with the rebels since April last.

* A similar letter was addressed to the War Office.

† No. 68.

Inclosure 2 in No. 74.

LIST of Articles abstracted from a Pocket-Book found on board a Vessel with Arms, &c., for Sale to the Rebels. The transactions appear to have taken place about April last.

Muskets (in number)	2,788	Field-pieces (in number)	347
Carbines " " " " " " ..	66	Powder-kegs " " " " " " ..	484
Rifles " " " " " " " " ..	4	Fine powder (lbs.) " " " " " ..	10,947
Small field-pieces " " " " " ..	448	Cartridges (in number) " " " ..	18,000
Revolver " " " " " " " " ..	1	Percussion caps " " " " " " ..	3,113,500
D. Guns " " " " " " " " " ..	192	S. caps " " " " " " " " " ..	1,405,000

Inclosure 3 in No. 74.

Passport found in the Pocket-Book of the Man belonging to the Junk seized for Smuggling Arms at Woo-sung.

Passport by land or water.—Chen Te Tien, an officer of Chung Waag command, gives this Pass, to be produced when called for (to four American foreigners) and their company, consisting of (a linguist, Leang-che-Shan), and horses, two boats, mules, and eleven coolies, proceeding from Soo-chow (to buy arms) to Shanghae. This Pass is good till their return, and officers who meet them will allow them to pass.

12th year of 4th moon, and 2nd day, of the kingdom of Universal Peace of God the Father, God the Son, and God Tien Wang.

Issued at Soo-chow.

No. 75.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received December 27.)

Sir, *Admiralty, December 26, 1862.*
 I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, dated the 24th October, 1862, and of its inclosure, reporting the capture of Kading, after a feeble resistance by the Tae-pings.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) **W. G. ROMAINE.**

Inclosure 1 in No. 75.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

My Lord, *Naval Brigade, near Kading, October 24, 1862.*
 YOU will be pleased to acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the force noted underneath moved out of Shanghae on the 22nd instant under the command of Brigadier-General Staveley, Captain Faucon, and Colonel Burgevine, of Ward's Chinese Corps, and that Kading was retaken this morning after a feeble resistance.

5. The Governor of the Province will place a garrison of 1,500 men in the place, and I trust I shall induce him to make the further arrangements necessary for its security, that of Tsing-poo, and the Shanghae district in general.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) **J. HOPE.**

Inclosure 2 in No. 75.

STATEMENT of Force engaged in the Expedition against Kading, October 24, 1862.

		Officers and Men.	Guns.	Mortars.
English troops	..	1,310	6	12
Naval Brigade	..	570	7	
French	..	493	5	
Chinese	..	1,900	8	
Total	..	4,273	26	12

NAVAL BRIGADE—CAPTAIN BORLASE, C.B.

				Officers.	Men.
" Impérieuse "	..	Captain Gibson—			
		Lieutenant Richardson	.. 1st S. A. Company	3	50
		Lieutenant Seymour	.. 2nd S. A. Company	3	50
		Lieutenant Washington	.. Field-pieces	2	40
		Lieutenant Davidson	.. Axe party	1	10
" Euryalus "	..	Captain Holland	.. Marines	2	49
		Captain Joshing—			
		Lieutenant Rochfort	.. 1st S. A. Company	2	50
		Lieutenant Colt	.. 2nd S. A. Company	2	50
		Lieutenant Hunter	.. Field-pieces	2	40
" Pearl "	..	Captain Jones	.. Marines	2	60
		Commander Parkins			
		Lieutenant Denistoun	.. S. A. Company	2	50
		Lieutenant Holbrook	.. Field-piece	1	20
		Lieutenant Stewart	.. Marines	1	20
ROYAL MARINE ARTILLERY.					
" Vulcan "	..	Commander Strode—			
		Lieutenant Grant	.. 32-pounder siege gun	1	46
" Starling "	..	Lieutenant Knevitt	.. Bridge Party	1	10
Total				25	545

ADDITIONAL.

" Havoc "—Lieutenant Poole. " Euryalus "—Lieutenant Barnard; Dr. Morgan, in medical charge.

Inclosure 3 in No. 75.

List of Casualties in the Forces under the command of Brigadier-General Staveley, during the Expedition against the Rebels at Kading, on October 24, 1862, with the probable Number of Days, under the most favourable circumstances, they will be unfit for Service.

Ships' Names.	Probable number of Days on the Sick List.	Names.	Rank or Rating.	Killed.	Wounded.			Total.	Remarks.
					Dangerously.	Severely.	Slightly.		
Impérieuse	21	Stephen Mc Coy	Captain, After Guard	...	...	1	...	1	Bullet lodged.
Ditto	30	Charles Townrow	Ordinary	...	...	1	...	1	Bullet wound of left arm.
Ditto	3	Wm. Bushford	Ditto	...	...	1	...	1	Contused wound of left side of chest.
Euryalus	30	John Kilbury	Gunner's mate	...	...	1	...	1	Bullet wound of left nates.
Ditto	6	Martin Connor	A.B.	...	...	1	...	1	Wound of the scalp.
Ditto	2	Michael Connor	Private, R. M.	...	...	1	...	1	Wound of the foot.
Ditto	6	Joseph Hythe	Ordinary	...	...	1	...	1	Wound of fore arm.
Ditto	21	John Halifax	Private, R. M.	...	...	1	...	1	Wound of right leg.
Pearl	60	John Farrant	Gunner, R. M. A.	...	...	1	...	1	Wound of face; bullet lodged.
Ditto	...	Daniel Dighton	Ordinary	...	1	...	...	1	Mortally; bullet-wound above pubes; pelvis fractured.
Ditto	3	Chr. Gambling	Ditto	...	...	1	...	1	Contused wound of shoulder.
Troops	...	...	...	1	...	6	7		
French	...	...	...	...	1	2	3		
Ward's Chinese	...	...	...	3	...	4	5	12	
Grand Total				4	1	10	18	33	

(Signed)

J. HOPE, Vice-Admiral.

No. 76.

Sir E. Lugard to Mr. Hammond.—(Received December 29.)

Sir,

War Office, December 27, 1862.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Russell, the inclosed copy of a despatch from Brigadier-General Staveley, in which he reports the operations which had been taken by the combined forces against the rebels at Kading, resulting in the capture of that city.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

EDWARD LUGARD.

Inclosure in No. 76.

Brigadier-General Staveley to Sir G. C. Lewis.

Sir,

Head-Quarters, Kading, October 24, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your information, that the Chinese authorities having expressed their willingness to place a garrison in Kading, if the allied forces would re-capture it for them, the place was taken by storm, after a bombardment of two hours, this morning, by the force under my immediate command, mentioned in the accompanying Return, as well as the British naval force under Captain Borlase, C.B., and the French troops placed respectively at my disposal by Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, and Captain Faucon commanding His Imperial Majesty's forces in China; also the so-called Ward's force under the command of an American (Colonel Burgevine), and Lieutenant Kingley's (67th regiment) battalion of 500 Chinese, and six mortars worked by Chinese under Lieutenant Cane, R.A.; all detailed in the Return.

The guns and mortars were got into position during the night and opened fire so soon as the walls could be seen. At 8 o'clock two practicable breaches having been made, the French and British each established their bridges, the British under the direction of Lieutenant Knevitt, R.N., and Lieutenant Lyster, R.E.; the storming parties of the 31st and 67th Regiments, under the command of Captain Christian, 31st Regiment, then planted their ladders, and entered the place without opposition, the enemy escaping by the opposite side of the city.

The place had been considerably strengthened since our last visit by an out-work made to flank the walls, and protected by a sort of bomb proof, which, however, was not proof against 8-inch mortar shells.

I gave over the place to Colonel Burgevine and his men, and except the storming parties, none of Her Majesty's naval or military forces were allowed to enter it.

The re-capture of Kading completes the radius of thirty miles round Shanghai which it was decided should be cleared of the Tae-ping rebels.

I trust that the excellent conduct of the troops, under very tempting circumstances and the very arduous nature of the service, will be favourably considered. I wish to mention for favourable notice Captain Gordon, commanding Royal Engineer; Captain Mansergh, Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General; Captain Gammall, Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General; Dr. Rennie, 31st Regiment, Senior Medical Officer; Assistant Commissary-General Thompson, in charge of Commissariat; Lieutenant Jebb, 31st Regiment; and the Prince Witgenstein of 1st Prussian Lancer Guard Regiment, who acted as my Aide-de-camp.

I take this opportunity of recording the great assistance I have invariably received on the occasions of the various expeditions from Mr. Consul Medhurst and Mr. C. Alabaster of the Consular Service.

I also wish to mention the services performed by Commander Strode, of Her Majesty's ship "Vulcan," who was employed during the whole of the operations against the Tae-pings, and whose name was inadvertently omitted in my commendatory despatch; also of his first lieutenant, Lieutenant Grant.

Commander Strode had the working of the naval 32-pounders on all occasions when they were used, and was assisted by Lieutenant Grant.

In transmitting a list of casualties, I have much satisfaction in calling your attention to the Senior Medical Officer's Report (herewith forwarded) on the health of the field force.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. STAVELEY.

No. 77.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received December 30.)

Sir,

Admiralty, December 27, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of Earl Russell, a copy of a letter dated the 13th October last from Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, together with its inclosures, respecting the defeat by a force under Captain Dew of the "Encounter," of a large rebel force in the neighbourhood of Fung-wha, and the subsequent evacuation of that town.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 77.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

My Lord,

"Coromandel," Ningpo, October 13, 1862.

YOU will be pleased to lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the accompanying despatch from Captain Dew, of Her Majesty's ship "Encounter," detailing the defeat of a large rebel force in the neighbourhood of Fung-wha, and their subsequent evacuation of that town.

2. Yu-yaou and Fungwha are the keys to the two approaches to Ningpo; and these being now secured by sufficient garrisons, should the protective measures I have pointed out to Colonel Forrester, the officer in command of this district, be vigorously carried out, there is little probability of its suffering further molestation from the rebels or of the peasantry losing their crops, now on the point of being harvested.

3. I further add the translation of a letter found on a rebel messenger, from which it would appear that some of their chiefs are becoming sensible of the hatred with which their cruelties inspire the population of the country and the mischief resulting therefrom to their cause.

4. I feel much pleasure in drawing their Lordships' attention to the determination evinced by Captain Dew in this affair, and the good conduct of the officers and men engaged in it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HOPE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 77.

Captain Dew to Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope.

Sir,

"Encounter," Ningpo, October 12, 1862.

AFTER capturing Fung-wha, a large body of the Tae-ping rebels advanced on Ningpo, murdering and driving in the peasantry, and burning their villages. I deemed it necessary for the safety of this city to reduce the rebels' stronghold; and on the 8th instant advanced up the river with the "Hardy" and "Flamer" gun-boats, the French war-steamer "Derouledé," and Chinese steamer "Confucius," having on board the small-arm men and Marines of this ship, and "Sphinx," three English and two Chinese howitzers, and 1,000 of the drilled Chinese corps of Ward, commanded by Colonel Forrester.

On arriving at a bridge twenty miles from Ningpo we landed the force and marched on Fung-wha, a distance of ten miles from the river, and arrived under the walls at 11 A.M. on the 9th instant.

Having arranged a plan of attack with Colonel Forrester, that officer advanced with 600 men and two guns on the North and West Gates, whilst I advanced on the East Gate, and took up a position with the three guns under Lieutenant Bosanquet at 200 yards from the walls, where a storming party of 400 of Ward's troops were to advance, covered by the Marines and small-arm men.

At 3 P.M. the guns opened fire on the parapet on each side of the gateway, which was returned by one gun and musketry from the walls. Having destroyed a

portion of the parapet I ordered Major Rhode to advance his ladders and storm, at the same time running the guns to within 50 yards of the walls. When the ladder-party reached the bridge close to the gate they met with a heavy fire, and most of the bearers were killed and burnt by showers of stink-pots, fireballs and powder-bags. Ward's troops retreated. To reassure them I ordered Commander Jones, with 20 small-arm men, to the front; he most gallantly led on through a similar fiery ordeal, Lieutenants Davis and Finling, and Mr. Douglas, Midshipman, and Mr. Coker, Master's Assistant, disencumbering the ladders from the dead, and carrying them up to the walls. The Ward troops would not follow, so Commander Jones placed his small party in the arch of the gateway, and with axes attempted to cut through the gate, but found solid stone-work beyond. The attack on the other gates having failed, at dark I withdrew guns and men, and sent to the river for powder-breakers to blow open the gates.

On the following morning a 'Tae-ping' army of about 6,000 men advanced along the plain to the relief of Fung-wha. A plan of attack was at once made with Colonel Forrester; Major Rhode, with 500 men, and the Marines under Mr. Douglas, Midshipman, crossed a river and headed the rebels; whilst I advanced with Colonel Forrester and a gun to pierce their centre and left flank. Both attacks were successful, the routed rebels taking to the hills, leaving behind them a large quantity of powder, stores, and loot, and some thousand pressed and branded country-people were released. The small-arm men were held in reserve with two guns.

The powder having arrived, I had arranged to storm the walls at daybreak next morning; but at 2 A.M. the rebels left the city, which was at once occupied by Ward's troops, and I withdrew our own men and guns to the ships.

Nothing could exceed the gratitude of the country-people; by thousands they flocked back to their homes to reap the magnificent rice-crop which covered the plain, the fall of Fung-wha saving them from starvation in the coming winter.

The atrocities committed by the rebels exceed belief; in one spot 100 bodies of peasants lay together; their crime, refusal to carry the rebel plunder. Lieutenant Bosanquet, and Mr. Rawson, Midshipman, and a great portion of their guns' crews, were wounded when under the walls. Mr. Gravener, Master, with Messrs. Fern and Bargery, Gunners of "Encounter" and "Sphinx," made excellent practice.

Lieutenant de vaisseau De Riguebelle, commanding the "Derouledé," accompanied me with his men, and I have to thank him for the zeal and energy with which he and his men carried out my wishes.

In conclusion, I would bring to your notice the unremitting attention and care devoted by Dr. Irwin to the wounded, ably assisted by Mr. Johnstone, Assistant-Surgeon. Commander Jones brings to my notice the gallantry of George Hinckler, A.B., who twice carried wounded men from the archway under a heavy fire.

To the services of Mr. A. K. Hewlett, Acting Interpreter, I am much indebted. I inclose a list of casualties.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. DEW.



Inclosure 3 in No. 77.

LIST of Casualties in the Forces under the Command of Captain R. Dew, during the Expedition against the Rebels at Fung-wha, on the 8th, 9th, and 10th of October, 1862.

Probable number of days in which he will return to his duty.	Ship.	Names.	Rank or Rate.	Wounded.			Totals.	Remarks, &c.
				Dangerous.	Severe.	Slight.		
	"Encounter"	Harry H. Rawson	Midshipman . . .	...	1	...	1	All cases doing very well.
	Ditto . . .	Chas. Tettelt . .	Ordinary . . .	1	...	...	1	
	Ditto . . .	Hy. Dejervey . .	Leading seaman . .	...	1	...	1	
	Ditto . . .	Wm. Lardean . .	A.B. . . .	...	...	1	1	
	Ditto . . .	Chas. Jackson . .	A.B. . . .	...	...	1	1	
	Ditto . . .	Robt. Taylor . .	B. 1st Class . . .	...	...	1	1	
	Ditto . . .	Richd. Taylor . .	Leading stoker . .	...	1	...	1	
	Ditto . . .	James Turpin . .	Ordinary . . .	...	1	...	1	Being on board the "Sphinx" on my passage back from Ningpo, I ascertained, by personal inquiry, in what time her wounded would be likely to return to their duty, as I think that most of the wounds which are entered under the head of "severe" are calculated to give an erroneous impression of their character; and had I made similar inquiry on board the "Encounter," I have no doubt the result would have proved the same. The only two men who are likely to suffer permanent injury from their wounds, are the two under the head of "dangerous." (Signed) J. HOPE, Vice-Admiral.
14	"Sphinx".	Jno. Coker . . .	Master's assistant .	...	1	...	1	
10	Ditto . . .	David Bargery . .	Gunner . . .	...	...	1	1	
Uncertain	Ditto . . .	Thos. Taylor . .	2nd Captain maintop	1	...	...	1	
42	Ditto . . .	Chas. Harwood . .	Sail. crew . . .	...	1	...	1	
21	Ditto . . .	Edmd. Haywood . .	Ordinary 2nd class .	...	1	...	1	
30	Ditto . . .	Jno. McNee . . .	Ordinary . . .	...	...	1	1	
21	Ditto . . .	Jno. J. Johnson . .	Ordinary . . .	...	...	1	1	
21	Ditto . . .	Edwd. Gates . . .	2nd Captain maintop	...	1	...	1	
21	Ditto . . .	Stn. Diddaws . . .	A.B. . . .	...	1	...	1	
7	Ditto . . .	Edw. Collins . . .	A.B. . . .	...	...	1	1	
21	Ditto . . .	Jno. Mitton . . .	Ordinary . . .	...	1	...	1	
Returned to duty	Ditto . . .	Stn. Humperson . .	P. R. M. . . .	...	...	1	1	
	Ditto . . .	Thos. Webster . .	Ordinary 2nd Class .	...	...	1	1	
	Ditto . . .	Alfd. Chaplin . .	Leading seaman . .	...	...	1	1	
7	Ditto . . .	Wm. Legge . . .	2nd Captain foretop	...	...	1	1	
	"Flamer"	G. S. Bosapquet . .	Lieutenant Com-manding . .	...	1	...	1	
				2	11	11	24	

H.M.S. "Encounter," Ningpo,
October 11, 1862.

(Signed)

A. IRWIN,
Surgeon.

Inclosure 4 in No. 77.

Memorandum of Rebel Intelligence.

THE accompanying letter, the translation of which is annexed, was received from an employé in the yamun of the Taoutae of Ningpo.

It is addressed by the She Wang or Attendant Prince from Kin-hwa-foo, his head-quarters, to a subordinate officer, one Chin, in command at Tung-yang, a district city within the Foo of Kin-hwa, and distant some 160 *li* from that place. The rebel messenger (a servant of the She Wang) who was bearing the letter fell into the hands of the Imperialists in possession of the city of E-woo, his despatches were seized, and himself doubtless decapitated. The letter in question was forwarded by the authorities of E-woo to the Taoutae of Ningpo.

It is interesting as containing an admission on the part of a high Tae-ping official of the declining prospects of Tae-pingdom in this and adjoining provinces, and as showing that the Tae-pings have learnt, all too late for the success of their movement, that pillage, rapine, and oppression are not the sort of introductions likely to secure for their cause the sympathy and co-operation of their fellow-countrymen.

Chang-shan and Yu-shan, of which the writer deplores their loss, are frontier towns to the ———, the former in Kin-chow-foo, in Che-kiang, the latter in Hwang-sin-foo, in Kiang-se.

The "great Chief of the Imps" is Sang-kolinsin, who is investing Nanking. Tsang, is Tsang Kwo-fan, Viceroy of the Kiang; and the remaining "impish leader" is Leyuentoi, Provincial Treasurer of Che-kiang, whose forces now, according to the letter in possession of San-chi in Kin-hwa, are likely before long to come into collision with the She Wang army.

(Signed)

A. R. HEWLETT, Acting Interpreter.

Ningpo, September 12, 1862.

Remarks by Mr. Harvey, Her Majesty's Consul at Ningpo.

This is a business letter; there is no allusion to anything but terrestrial matters, no launching forth into spiritual or doctrinal dogmas.

The Tae-ping religious element is completely laid aside, the confederates making no attempt to impose upon each other by allusion to heavenly rights. The letter speaks of great and near dangers, of party mistakes and reverses, and of the adoption of an altered policy in future for the purpose of remedying past errors and regaining the lost ground.

Rebel Letter.

(Translation.)

LE-SHE-HEEN, the attendant Prince, to the worthy Duke Chin (General Commanding) at Tung-yang:—

Gracious younger brother, know that last year we committed two great errors in our military tactics: the first was, abandoning the province of Gan-hwuy to invade Che-kiang; the second was neglecting to provide for a retreat into Keang-se by holding the two cities of Chang-shan and Yu-shan. At this present time a great Chief of the Imps, a prince of the first rank, is leading against Nanking an army of Mantchoos, Hankeims, and Mongolians, to the number of 600,000 men. We have already lost nine-tenths of the ground we held there.

The road (through Gan-hwuy) being closed, my army is unable to go to the rescue, so that the danger awaiting our Royal house is imminent.

Tsang, a Chief of the Imps, is holding Kin-chow-foo and Yen-chow-foo with an army of 400,000, so that there is no road open through those parts; whilst Le, another impish Chief, is garrisoning Chang-shan and Yu-shan with 400,000 men, assisted by 200,000 local bandits (*i.e.*, country people, men of the soil). Half of his army has now gone to garrison Sanchi, a strong position, from which they mean to attack me at Kin-hwa. The minds of my soldiers are unsettled, and they will not exert themselves in the fight, so that things look very threatening.

I further hear that the people are rising in all parts of the country, and Chow Mow (in command at Shing-hien, writes to say that the disaffected throughout the north-west parts (of Shaou-hing-foo) are most numerous, and that it will require a force of 100,000 disciplined troops to put them down.

Now I am of opinion that these risings are owing to the excesses of the brethren (our soldiery) who force the people to rebel by their acts of murder and rapine, and that they cannot be attributed entirely to the bad disposition of the people.

I have now heard, gracious brother, that your government has been such as to keep Sung-yang free from disaffection. This good work of yours merits the highest approbation. I would counsel you to use your best efforts from this time forth to show love to the people, so as to prevent them looking upon us in the light of enemies. Then should we meet with any unlucky chance, we shall still have places of retreat and concealment left open to us; whereas (if we ill-treat the people) one reverse and we shall find no spot of earth for our dead bodies to rest in.

You must inform all our officers of my ideas on this subject.

This letter is intended for your edification solely; it must not be made common, lest it disturb the minds of our soldiery. When you have perused it, consign it to the flames.

Given on the 12th of the 7th moon (7th August, 1862, Chinese calendar).

[Intercepted by the Public Committee of E-woo, and forwarded to 'Taoutae of Ningpo on 21st August, 1862.]

No. 78.

Acting Consul Markham to Earl Russell.—(Received December 30.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, November 3, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of despatch addressed by Consul Medhurst on the 31st ultimo to Mr. Bruce.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MARKHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 78.

Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.)

Shanghai, October 31, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of an official letter addressed me by Brigadier-General Staveley, reporting the capture of Kading.

The Chinese authorities are taking far more energetic measures this time for the retention of their acquisition than they did when Kading was last captured for them. They have put a large strong force into the city, and provisioned it suitably; they have established a fortified post at Nai-ziang, which I believe to be held by some of the newly-drilled men; and they have concluded upon opening a broad straight road between Kading and this place to secure easy and rapid communication at all times. I think, therefore, there is some hope of their being able to hold their ground, even if attacked.

Inclosure 2 in No. 78.

Brigadier-General Staveley to Consul Medhurst.

(Extract.)

Head-Quarters, Shanghai, October 27, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, in consequence of the Governor of this Province having expressed his willingness to place a garrison in Kading, if the allies would place him in possession of it, that city was taken by storm on the 24th instant by the troops under my immediate command, together with the forces placed at my disposal by Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, Capitaine Faucon, commanding the French forces in China, and Colonel Burgevine, of the Imperial service.

After the capture I handed over the city to the charge of Colonel Burgevine, with a request that he would not withdraw his force until the new garrison was properly established and provisioned in it.

Her Majesty's troops returned to Ne-zian the same day, and to Shanghai the day after.

No. 79.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received December 31.)

(Extract.)

Admiralty, December 27, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of Earl Russell, a copy of a letter dated the 8th ultimo, from Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, together with copy of a letter addressed by him to Mr. Bruce, Her Majesty's Minister at Peking, containing an extract from a Memorandum he had left with Rear-Admiral Kuper, his successor, on the transfer of his command, and also bearing testimony to the valuable services rendered by Mr. Chaloner Alabaster, Consular Assistant, attached to the Vice-Admiral as interpreter.

Inclosure 1 in No. 79.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

My Lord,

"Impérieuse," Hong Kong, November 8, 1862.

HEREWITH I forward, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the copy of a letter I addressed to Mr. Bruce on resigning the command of this Station, which contains the view I entertain of our relations with the rebels.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HOPE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 79.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to Mr. Bruce.

Sir, "Impérieuse," at Hong Kong, November 5, 1862.

HEREWITH I forward, for your information, an extract from a Memorandum I left with my successor on the transference of the command, which contains my views of the rebel questions.

I avail myself of this opportunity to bring to your notice the name of Mr. Chaloner Alabaster, Consular Assistant, whose zeal and ability as interpreter, in which capacity he was invariably attached either to the General or myself during the operations against the rebels, as well as in conducting my communications with the Chinese authorities, have been of the greatest service to me.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HOPE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 79.

Extract from a Memorandum dated October 15, 1862, addressed to Rear-Admiral Kuper by Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope, on resigning the Command of the Station.

OUR relations with the rebels commenced in January 1861, when the Yang-tze was opened, and are purely naval.

In these relations two questions only require special notice, of which one is the exception which the Rebel Government at Nanking took to junks and other native-built vessels entitled to carry our flag, in virtue of their ownership being *bond fide* British vessels, and therefore exempt from interference by them while navigating those parts of the river in their possession.

Ostensibly refusing, however, to yield this point when I was last at Nanking, they appear yet to have done so virtually, as only one instance of a British junk being interfered with has been since brought to my notice, and in that redress was immediately obtained by the officer stationed at Nanking.

It is, however, necessary to add that from Plover Point, which is in the possession of the rebels, on two occasions British junks have been captured and plundered by a gang of Cantonese, whom I have grounds for supposing are in league with Cantonese junks cruizing in the river, and even with Chinese merchants at Shanghai.

On the first occasion, the junks, with the greater part of the property, were recovered by an expedition I despatched for the purpose under Captain Willes; on the second, the same success was not obtained, the information having been given me too late, and it not suiting my arrangements to send a large landing party, without which little can be done, in consequence of the shoalness of the water rendering it necessary for the people employed to remain ashore during a tide, in which time a considerable force might be brought down from a walled town which the rebels hold about six miles inland.

The recent destruction of three Cantonese junks by the "Sphinx," and the employment of a gun-boat to cruize off the Point, since I have been able to spare one for the purpose, has effectually checked these malpractices for the present; but they will never be effectually suppressed so long as the neighbouring country is held by the rebels.

The other and the only question of real importance on which we are at variance with the rebels, arose from their desire to possess themselves of Shanghai, and their capture of Ningpo, since re-taken.

On my first visit to Nanking, in the absence of any instructions on the subject, but with the knowledge that the Government had approved of Mr. Bruce having defended Shanghai against the rebels in 1860, I effected an agreement with them, but limited to the year, that they should not approach it within 100 *li* (thirty miles), on the whole tolerably well kept during that time, but which they refused to renew on the occasion of my last visit, when on leaving I warned them of the consequences which would result from its infraction.

Shortly after, the foreign Consuls at Shanghai received an intimation from the rebel Chiefs in the neighbourhood that it was their intention to capture the town, which was followed up by their proceeding to burn the villages and ravage the country on each side of the river within gun-shot of the lines of the place. On my

instance to Mr. Bruce, the garrison of Tien-tsin, under orders for England, were sent *en route* to Shanghae for the purpose of clearing the neighbouring country of the rebels to a distance of about thirty miles, the boundary line being run from Cholin, on the Hang-chow Bay, through Najaor, Min-hong, Sung-keong, Tsing-poo, and Kading, to the Yang-tze.

The operations necessary for this purpose were carried out up to a certain point with entire success, in conjunction with the French, by the capture of Kading, Tsing-poo, Najaor, and Cholin, together with several minor posts occupied by the rebels, but were brought to a sudden close by the withdrawal of the garrison of Kading and the return of the troops to Shanghae.

This evacuation of Kading, determined on in consequence of the irruption of a large body of rebels from Soo-chow, who invested (but without success) Kading, Tsing-poo, and Sung-keong, leading the General to the conclusion that he could not maintain his communication with its garrison during the hot weather, led to that of Tsing-poo, and to the re-occupation of both places by the rebels; added to which the Chinese troops, who occupied two good positions for the protection of Shanghae in camps at Tsi-poo and Yakitun, were moved out for the purpose of capturing Taziam, and were dispersed with great loss.

Whether disgusted with the want of success in their sieges, or influenced by apprehensions of an attack from Shanghae, or summoned to the neighbourhood of Nanking in consequence of the success of Tsung Kwo-fan in that quarter, the great body of the rebels moved off in the direction in which they had appeared, and the country on that side of the river was freed of them with the exception of the garrisons in Tsing-poo and Kading, and one or two minor posts in the vicinity of the latter.

The retention of a garrison at Najaor, which, commanding the neck of the Poo-tung Peninsula, inspired the rebels holding the towns in its interior with the fear that their retreat would be cut off, together with the entering to the Imperialists of a rebel Chief of some note, led to their abandonment of the entire district of country within the contemplated limits on that side of the river, which has since been followed up by the capture of Kiu-sau-wei by Colonel Ward and the reported desertion of Chapoo by the rebels.

Tsing-poo was recaptured by Colonel Ward in the middle of August, and Kading by a combined force of English, French, and Chinese on the 24th October, and before returning to Shanghae I ascertained that the outposts held by the rebels at Leukahan Sotra, the Leuho and Wangdoo were left by them.

Thus the whole of the Shanghae district within the prescribed boundary has been cleared of the rebels.

The practicability of conducting trade from a port in the possession of the rebels was tried with every advantage during their occupation of Ningpo, and proved a total failure, in consequence of the Chinese of the wealthier classes, through whose instrumentality trade is conducted not returning, although the lower orders flocked in large numbers to the foreign Settlement in consequence of the security they found there.

No. 80.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received January 3.)

Sir,

Admiralty, January 2, 1863.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, dated the 20th October, with its inclosures, in original, refuting statements made in certain journals relative to Tae-ping prisoners having been executed by the Imperialists in China.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMANE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 80.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

My Lord,

"Coromandel," Shanghai, October 20, 1862.

A LETTER addressed to the editor of the "Times of India" of the 13th May, 1862, relative to Chinese cruelties, and reflecting on the British authorities here, a

copy of which has been sent by Earl Russell to the Consul for explanation, having been brought to my notice by him, I consider it necessary to put their Lordships in possession of the facts of the case; for which purpose I have, as will appear from the papers annexed, put myself in communication with the Chinese authorities in order to their thorough investigation: these papers being—

(1.) A copy of a letter to the editor of the "Times."

(2.) The correspondence and remarks which appeared in the local papers on the subject annexed, to which is an official return of the execution furnished to me by the Taoutae at the time.

(3.) Statement of two officers of the "Impérieuse" who accidentally were present at the executions on Sunday, the 23rd of February.

(4.) List of all executions which have taken place at Shanghae between the 1st of January and the present date, furnished to me by the Taoutae.

(5.) List of all the prisoners brought in by Ward's troops when co-operating with the English and French from the time when the operations commenced to the present date, and of their disposal.

(6.) Acknowledgment of the Taoutae of the agreement he made with me that no prisoner who fell into his hands in consequence of our operations should be executed without my previous sanction being obtained, and that the said agreement has been faithfully observed.

(7.) Minutes of an interview held with the Taoutae on this subject on Friday, the 17th October.

2. From these papers it will be observed that the account contained in the letter addressed to the editor of the "Times" of India is entirely inconsistent with the facts of the case, and by those best informed here it is generally considered a pure fabrication, and to have been written in India on a private letter written from hence, or on those which appeared in the public prints—an opinion supported by the internal evidence it affords.

3. Their Lordships will observe that the Taoutae repudiates altogether the idea that any such atrocities as those described in the letter have ever been committed at Shanghae, and affirms that, on the contrary, the prisoners of all descriptions, few of whom were really culpable, have been treated with kindness and humanity. On this point I am able to speak from my own personal knowledge.

In the first place in all our collisions with the rebels very few real rebels have been captured; they have invariably taken good care to escape in time. Those who have been taken are the peasantry of the country, women and children who have been pressed into their service; the men being employed as coolies, and who have been too happy to give themselves up to us, and always have done so whenever they have had the opportunity. Of these we have never made any prisoners at all, but have always allowed them to go where they pleased.

Some few women and young boys who appeared to be helpless have been brought in by us: the former have been given up to the Taoutae by the Consul; of the latter some are now on board the ships as officers' servants, and when the ships return to England will be provided for here either afloat or ashore, and others are in the same capacity with the residents at Shanghae. It is needless to add that in all cases these boys are well taken care of, and that they are learning the means of obtaining an honest livelihood.

4. Late in the evening of Sunday the 23rd February it accidentally came to my knowledge that these executions had taken place, and at 8 the following morning I was with the Taoutae for the purpose of putting a stop to them, so far as regarded prisoners taken by Ward's troops when acting in co-operation with us, and of exacting from him the promise that no prisoner who fell into his hands under those circumstances should be executed without my previous sanction being obtained. That sanction has never been applied for. Their Lordships will observe that the Taoutae affirms he has faithfully adhered to his engagement with me; consequently none have been executed except the fifteen soldiers taken at Koojow, who were executed on Sunday, the 23rd, the day before I saw him on the subject. These men were executed for desertion to the rebels, and murdering their Captain. Had the propriety of executing them been submitted to my decision, and had their offence been limited to desertion, I should have had no scruple in requesting the Taoutae to commute their sentence: but the aggravation of the murder of their officer would have rendered it very difficult to have interfered in their behalf.

The Taoutae on this occasion having stated to me that the majority of the prisoners, so far from being culpable, were men pressed by the rebels, and objects of

pity, and that so far from treating them harshly it was his intention to take care of them till they could return to their friends, for which purpose they were barracked at the same place with the numerous refugees driven in from the country by the rebels and treated precisely in the same way, I visited them and having the assistance of Mr. Alabaster ascertained by personal inquiry the history of a considerable number taken indiscriminately from about 200. Their accounts entirely confirmed the statement made to me by the Taoutae of the mode in which they had fallen into the hands of the rebels, and of the kind treatment they had received at his hands.

5. In the Minutes of my interview with the Taoutae on Friday last, their Lordships will observe the statement made by him in regard to his having placed the women who were given over to him in an asylum, and by similar personal inquiry again found his statement entirely corroborated. It appears that altogether about one hundred women have passed through the asylum; of these about twenty who are either helpless or friendless are still there, the remainder have been returned to their friends.

5. I trust that the explanation which I have now forwarded to their Lordships will prove entirely satisfactory, and that the question being one which touches my own personal character, as well as that of the officers and men who are serving under me, the necessary prolixity of this letter will be excused.

6. It has been my habit never to read the local papers since I have commanded on this station, and the extract of a Shanghae paper which I had relative to a recent occurrence at Ningpo was brought to my notice by Mr. Alabaster.

From the statement of the real facts of the case which I have attached to the extract in question, it will be observed how entirely unworthy of credit the accounts contained in these papers too frequently are, when they touch the view of passing events which their proprietors are disposed to take.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HOPE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 80.

Extract from the "Times of India," May 13, 1862. *Minutes of an Interview with the Taoutae, on Friday, October 17, 1862.*

CHINESE CRUELITIES.

Present:

To the Editor of the "Times of India."

Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope.

Sir,—The "Saturday Review" (see "Times of India" of May 3, 1862) must be very badly informed as to the proceedings of the Tae-pings and their opponents in China. "The prodigies of lust and murder" perpetrated at any time by the Tae-pings could never have exceeded the brutality committed on them by the Imperialist party. Read the following description by an Englishman of the horrors he was witness to, when both English and French officers and soldiers were lookers on at the execution by disembowelment of Tae-ping prisoners:—

Captain Borlase, R.N., Her Majesty's ship "Pearl."

C. Alabaster, Esq., Consular Assistant.

"Well, I went with the crowd to see the execution of the Tae-ping prisoners that had been given up for execution into the hands of the Mandarins by the English and French authorities, or, what is the same thing, they took no measures to prevent the ruthless butchery of those they lent their aid to capture; when, horror of horrors! how am I to describe the dreadful scene, or will it ever leave my memory? Among those wretches were young and old of both sexes, and of all ages and sizes, from the infant recently born to the man of eighty, tottering on

1. The Taoutae distinctly affirmed that no women who had ever fallen into his hands had been executed or ill-treated, but, on the contrary, that they had been

Extract from the "Times of India," May 13, 1862.

Minutes of an Interview with the Taoutae, on Friday, October 17, 1862.

his staff; from the *enceinte* woman to the young maiden from ten to eighteen. The latter were pushed out by the guards among the crowd of ruffians assembled, and were taken into sheds and bye-places and debauched, and again dragged back by the hair of the head to the Chinese guards to await their turn for execution. Some of them had fainted, and were pulled along the ground to the executioners, who threw them on their backs, tore off their clothes, and ripped them from the lower part of the abdomen to the breasts, which were cut off and dashed, with a curse, in their faces. The bowels, as a matter of course, gushed out; but the cut was made in such a way, and so skilfully, and with such expertness, that the intestine was seldom injured. After a little time in this state of excessive torture, the executioner thrust his hand into the chest, and tore out the reeking heart; his victim looking him in the face all the while. A young female, apparently about eight months pregnant, who never uttered a groan or sigh at all the previous cruelties she had endured from the surrounding mob, had her infant cut out of her womb, and held up in her sight by one of its little hands, bleeding and quivering, when, at the sight, she gave one heart-rending, piercing screech, that would have awakened pity in a tiger, and after it had been in that state dashed on her breast, she, with a last superhuman effort, released her arms from those holding her down, and clasped her infant to her bleeding heart, and died, holding it there with such force that they could not be separated, and were thus thrown together on the pile of other carcases. Another young woman among the prisoners awaiting her turn to be disembowelled, with a fine boy of ten months old crowing and jumping in her arms, had him snatched suddenly away from her and flung to the executioner, who plunged the ruthless knife into his tender breast before his mother's eyes. Infants but recently born were torn from their mothers' breasts and disembowelled before their faces. Young strong men were disembowelled, mutilated, and the parts cut off and thrust into their own mouths, or flung among the admiring and laughing crowd of Chinamen. But no more; I can write no more of these scenes; I can only regret for ever that I looked on the dreadful sight. I am no longer fit to be a soldier. I have been in many battles during the last twenty years, and

placed in a charitable institution where they had been well taken care of, those who had friends being returned to them, and the remainder being still there.

This asylum was visited immediately after the interview was over, and his account was found to be strictly correct.

2. Disembowelling has never been practised at executions. There are no executioners who would be sufficiently skilful to administer such a cut as that described in the letter. Why should it be done? It would be very disagreeable to witness, and would do no good.

After the execution was over, the people, who have been very much exasperated against the rebels, may sometimes have committed outrages upon the corpses, but nothing in the shape of torture has ever been practised by the executioners.

The account given by the two officers of the "Impériouse," who were accidentally present at the executions on Sunday, the 23rd February, confirms this statement. They distinctly state the first blow must have always been fatal, though the head was not in every case completely severed from the body by it.

3. The men, with the exception of a comparatively small number, really criminals, were treated in the same way, as, having been pressed by the rebels, they were not culpable. For some time they were kept in an asylum, where their former occupations being found out, if they had no friends, they were eventually dismissed, with five dollars a-piece, to shift for themselves.

The correctness of this statement was also confirmed by a personal inspection of this asylum in February last.

4. Recollected the engagement entered into with the Admiral in February last, that no prisoners which came into his hands in consequence of operations conducted in conjunction with the English and French, should be executed without the Admiral's previous sanction.

Stated that this engagement had been strictly observed, and that, further, he had orders from Peking to deal leniently with rebel prisoners.

Will write a letter to the Admiral to the above effect.

5. Will furnish a list to the Admiral

Extract from the "Times of India," May 13, 1862.

Minutes of an Interview with the Taoutae, on Friday, October 17, 1862.

in the thickest of the fight of most of them, where a rage and thirst for carnage is dreadful to reflect on afterwards, but nothing heretofore that I have seen or heard of, or even read of, could be compared to the dreadful cruelty of the disembowelling execution. May God forgive England for the part she is taking in this war, and may the sin of the enormities she has assisted in perpetrating on the defenceless woman and innocent and helpless child be removed from her door, and after the treatment English women and children met with from the hands of the blacks in the Sepoy mutiny, it is truly wonderful that Englishmen should join in, or countenance, similar atrocities here. It is now ascertained, for a certainty, that B. and his companions, after having been tortured in every way that Chinese ingenuity and cruelty could devise, were afterwards mutilated, and then disembowelled by the Imperialists, and for that reason the Chinese authorities would not produce their dead bodies. Poor F., who came with me to see the execution, fell down in a fainting fit, and was in that state carried away, and is now a raving maniac from the effects the dreadful sight had on him. We are now, with the money wrung from the starving poor of England, assisting those very monsters whose hands are dyed red in the blood of our countrymen, and for what? For the sake of the golden trade derived from their country! Englishmen, what would be your feelings had your fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, wives, and children been served by Frenchmen or Russians as described above? Would you think that any amount of revenge you could take on them would be half sufficient? But God, who looks with pity on the sufferings of his creatures, sees all this, and hears all their cries of despair and agony; and yet it must be all right, or else He would not permit it. I am well punished, you will say, for neglecting my kind, good uncle's anxious desire for me to leave the army and join him in Australia, and I feel so myself."

If the "Saturday Reviewer" knows of anything that the Tae-pings have committed to exceed this description of what has become an ordinary execution among the Imperialists in China when Tae-pings fall into their hands, it is to be hoped he will publish it. Even the annals of Rome could scarcely furnish the like.—
TOKI.

of all rebel prisoners which have fallen into his hands since last February, and how they have been disposed of; also a list of all executions during the same period, noting those who were rebels.

6. A considerable number of disorderly soldiers, who have been plundering the country, have been executed, but they were not rebels. Some women may have been insulted by the troops, but none have ever been executed.

Anything in the shape of indiscriminate massacre is contrary to our law.

Inclosure 3 in No. 80.

Extracts from Local Papers.

From the statement which follows, it will be observed that this account is erroneous, only fifteen having been executed on Sunday, and not twenty-two.

RETURN of Executions at Shanghae, furnished by the Taoutae to Vice-Admiral
Sir J. Hope.

Friday, February 21.	For robbery, murder, and incendiarism	..	..	..	5
Saturday, February 22.	Plundering the country	..	..	..	25
Sunday, February 23.	Deserting to the rebels and murdering their officer	..	..	..	15*
Monday, February 24.	Piracy	..	..	..	7
Total	..	..	..	..	52

Inclosure 4 in No. 80.

Report of Chinese Executions.

ONE Sunday, on the 23rd February last, we, the Undersigned, saw eight men beheaded in the city of Shanghae.

We first saw these men, as prisoners, on their knees before a table in a large court-house, behind which were several mandarins, and surrounded by Chinese and Europeans amongst whom were several military officers. As the prisoners were condemned they were led out and placed on their knees in an inner court-yard, and after the whole was over the eight men were led into an outer court and their heads struck off at once, an executioner being appointed to each person. The instrument used was a rather long, common, Chinese sword; one head was taken off with one blow, but we certainly saw the stroke repeated in one or more instances, but in all cases the first blow must have been fatal. The whole executions certainly did not occupy two minutes, and were not attended by any unnecessary cruelty.

(Signed) JOSEPH G. DATHAM, *Master,*
H.M.S. "Impérieuse."

R. ALLEN, *Chief Engineer,*
H.M.S. "Impérieuse."

October 18, 1862.

Inclosure 5 in No. 80.

Memorandum of the Rebels who were Punished according to Law.

(Translation.)

THE following named persons who were found guilty of murder and plunder :—
Liu Chang-chin, Liu King-soong, Ma Ah-te, Yang Tuk-kwey, Le Heang-te: five in all.

The following were found guilty of committing violence and of plundering :—
Le Ye-thin, Oo-seang, Liu Foh-se, Liu Pah-seang, Yui Kwah-lin, Lo Kwoh-seu, Lo-chi, Lo-ta, Liu-may: nine in all.

Ko Ping-yuen, guilty, after due examination.

Liu Yin-ming, Yan Sean-keu: two.

Kuen-sen, found guilty of being a rebel spy.

Tsin-yu, Shin-yu-ming, guilty of impressing women.

Lok Yo-ze, Chou Ting-pou, guilty of robbing merchandize of boats.

Chu Shin-ka, Zi Kway-fog, Liu King-tong, guilty of robbing sycee.

Yang-shan.

Twenty-six in all.

* These fifteen were taken at Kow-jow, by Ward's troops, when acting in co-operation with us.

Inclosure 6 in No. 80.

MEMORANDUM of Men and Women captured from the Rebels by Colonel Ward's Men and by the Allied Troops, in their joint Expeditions at different times.

Date of Capture.	Place of Capture.	By whom Captured.	Persons captured.	Total.	Remarks.
1st moon, 5th day	Ye-che-pang, near Sung-keang	Col. Ward's men .	Impressed coolies ..	..	Released at Sung-keang.
" 7th "	Tien Ma-shan, near Sung-keang	Ditto	Ditto	..	Ditto.
" 23rd "	Kean-kio ..	The allied troops .	Pucka rebels 200 Impressed coolies 400 Women 50	650	
2nd moon 1st "	Sian-tong ..	Ditto	Pucka rebels 200 Impressed coolies 300 Women 20		
" 14th "	Sz-king ..	Col. Ward's men .	None.	520	
3rd moon, 6th "	Wam-ka-se ..	The allied troops .	None.		
" 7th "	Loong-chu-ae ..	Ditto	Pucka rebels 100 Impressed coolies 200	300	
" 19th "	Chow-pu ..	Col. Ward's men .	Pucka rebels 500 Impressed coolies 400		
4th moon, 1st "	Yok-cha-shan, near Nau-shiang	The allied troops .	None.	900	
" 3rd "	Kading ..	Ditto	Pucka rebels 300 Impressed coolies 400 Women 30		
" 14th "	Tsing-pu ..	Ditto	Pucka rebels 400 Impressed coolies 500 Women 40	940	
" 19th "	Nan-kio ..	Ditto	None.		
" 22nd "	Cho-lin ..	Ditto	None.		
" 23rd "	Foong-yeu ..	Ditto	None.		

Of the captured Pucka rebels some were released, some given over to their friends, and some sent to their native districts. None were killed.

Of the captured impressed coolies some have been well taken care of, some delivered to their friends.

Of the captured women some have been well taken care of, some delivered to their friends.

MEMORANDUM of the Pucka Rebels, Impressed Coolies, and Women that were captured in the several Expeditions, and either released, delivered to their friends, or well taken care of.

From the 1st moon to the 4th moon inclusive, there were captured by the allied troops in different places—

Impressed coolies, 2,259; of whom 338 were released, 452 delivered up to their friends, 1,469 remaining in charge. Of the last, many have since returned to the native districts from time to time.

Women, 148; of whom 45 had been taken away by their friends, 103 remaining in charge. Of the last class many have from time to time returned to their homes.

Pucka rebels, 1,787; of whom 446 were set free, 267 were given over to their friends, 1,074 remaining in charge.

Of the last class many have from time to time returned to their homes.

Among the Pucka rebels there were many who were real fighting men and followed the rebel cause; these received their legal punishment, of whom a Memorandum was presented.

Inclosure 7 in No. 80.

The Taoutae Woo to Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope.

(Translation.)

October 18, 1862.

IN the spring of the present year, your Excellency, influenced by a benevolent feeling towards the Chinese people as well as foreigners, conceived the idea of calling on me to submit the evidence there might be against any pucka rebel, captured in our joint expeditions, to you, before inflicting the legal punishment of death upon him, and also to take care that the pressed men, &c. (involuntary rebels), were, whatever their sex or condition, taken care of, and either given up to their friends if they had any, or otherwise disposed of.

I accepted your proposition with the good feeling it called for, and as I still act up to my engagement of submitting to you the facts which may be elicited in careful examination against any real rebel, and in caring for such pressed men, &c., as have fallen into our hands, I have thought it desirable to forward you this formal acknowledgment of our compact.

Inclosure 8 in No. 80.

Extract from the "Shanghai Recorder" of October 16, 1862.

WHEN last at Ningpo, I arrived during Captain Dew's absence at Fungwha, and having sent for Major Morton, the officer in command of Ward's Troops in the city, to make some inquiry as to their numbers, he acquainted me that the previous evening he had apprehended thirty rebel spies who had come into the foreign settlement at Ningpo, supplied with a considerable quantity of money, apparently for the purchase of arms, and who bore passes from their own chiefs, in which it was stated that we were all brothers, &c.

These men never made known their arrival to any of the authorities, either foreign or Chinese, and it is obvious enough that it is a gross misrepresentation to call them the bearers of pacific overtures to the foreigners. All communications of that description have invariably been sent by a single messenger, either a foreigner or Chinese, but never a rebel, direct to the foreign Consuls. It is possible enough that they were in communication with Mr. Davidson, a merchant long settled at Ningpo, and well known for his disreputable dealings with pirates and rebels for many years past, by whom this communication to the paper was probably sent.

The apprehension of these men was made by an officer of the Chinese Government in the exercise of his undoubted right, unknown to the British Consul, to Captain Dew, who was twenty miles distant, and to myself, who had not arrived, and their fate was decided before the circumstance came to our knowledge. It is to be observed that there never has been a foreign concession either applied for or granted at Ningpo under the Treaty, and that all Chinese who reside in the foreign settlement are subject to Chinese law.

No. 81.

Mr. Hammond to Sir E. Lugard.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, January 9, 1863.

LORD RUSSELL thinks it desirable to state, for the information of Secretary Sir George Cornewall Lewis, the opinion which he entertains respecting the assistance to be rendered by means of officers and men to the Chinese Government.

There are two questions connected with it: the one is, the assistance to be given by the Commanders of Her Majesty's forces in China towards the instruction of a Chinese force; the other is, the extent to which such assistance may be given to the Chinese forces in the field.

As regards the first question, Lord Russell considers that no reasonable objection can be entertained to allowing British officers and men to be temporarily detached from their regiments (continuing to receive their military pay and allowances), for the purpose of instructing and disciplining the land forces of the Emperor of China, provided that except in the case involved in the second question, which I am presently to explain, such officers and men do not act in the field with the forces which they are engaged in instructing.

As regards the second question, Lord Russell conceives that at Shanghai an exception may be made to the restriction which I have stated above. At that place Her Majesty's forces, in conjunction with those of the Emperor of the French, have undertaken to maintain against the Tae-pings a space of territory, to the extent of the radius of thirty miles round the city of Shanghai, for the purpose of defending the lives and properties of the foreign inhabitants of the settlement against these murderers and robbers. Within that space, therefore, Lord Russell sees no objection to allow that British officers and men who may have been detached from their regiments as instructors of the Chinese troops, shall act with those troops in the field against the Tae-pings. In so doing they will be carrying out operations in which, if they had continued with their regiments, the regiments to which they belong might properly have been engaged. But as the British regiments to which they belong cannot over-pass the thirty-mile limit in prosecution of hostile operations against the Tae-pings, so neither should the British instructors accompany the Chinese troops in military operations beyond that limit.

Her Majesty's Government having also on the same ground resolved to maintain against the Tae-pings the ports which are open by Treaty to foreign trade, the

principle which is laid down in regard to the co-operation of British instructors for the defence of Shanghai and its neighbourhood will apply equally to the other Treaty ports, and to any districts around them which, as in the case of Shanghai, circumstances may render it necessary to steer clear of Tae-ping invasion.

Sir George Lewis is aware that Her Majesty is about to issue an Order in Council permitting British officers to take service under the Chinese Government. Officers who may avail themselves of this permission will necessarily, for the time being, be held to be in the immediate service of the Chinese Government, and to such officers, who will be on half-pay, and not on the full pay of any regiment, the restrictions laid down in this letter in regard to officers detached from their regiments as instructors will of course not apply.

No. 82.

Vice-Consul Markham to Earl Russell.—(Received January 18, 1863.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, November 19, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch, dated this day, addressed by me to Mr. Bruce.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MARKHAM.

Inclosure in No. 82.

Vice-Consul Markham to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Shanghai, November 19, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that a large force of rebels left Soochow, Hang-chow, and Hoo-chow, headed by the Ting Wang, Mu Wang, and Ha Wang, for the purpose of attempting the recapture of Kah-ding and Tsingpo, and take, if possible, Sung-keong, Shanghai, and Paushun. They were to have assembled at Na-ziang, and thence marched in three separate divisions on the above-named enterprize. Information being received that a large portion of this force had already reached Wangdoo, between Tsingpo and Kah-ding, the Governor of the province marched against them from this city in person, and Colonel Burgevine, with a force of some 1,500 disciplined Chinese, simultaneously left Sung-keong for Tsingpo. Both parties fell in with the rebel force on the 16th instant, and after a hard fight of some hours the main body of rebels were dislodged from their position in a strong stockade by Colonel Burgevine's artillery, and the whole force was utterly routed with immense loss. The Ting Wang was drowned, the Mu Wang badly wounded, and an extraordinary number of chiefs killed and taken prisoners, the rebels having incautiously trusted to a floating bridge, which gave way at the first rush for escape. What with killed, prisoners, and deserters (chiefly the last), 10,000 only are said to have got away, and the Chinese authorities express their confidence that this victory will have the effect of keeping the thirty miles round Shanghai free from rebels for some time to come.

Colonel Burgevine's men are said to have behaved extremely well, and to have shown great confidence in their officers. Their loss was trifling.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MARKHAM.

No. 83.

Vice-Consul Markham to Earl Russell.—(Received January 18, 1863.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, November 19, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch, dated this day, addressed by me to Mr. Bruce.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MARKHAM.

Inclosure in No. 83.

Vice-Consul Markham to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Shanghai, November 20, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that M. Petchroff, a member of the Russian Legation, arrived here about a month ago, and has had several interviews with the Chinese authorities on the subject of a Russian force which is to come here shortly and to be engaged in operations against the Taepings. The Chinese say that he professed himself unable to give them particulars as to their numbers, or even to state whether the force was to be simply employed in the neighbourhood of Shanghai or Ningpo, or, as rumoured, in operations on a large scale with a view to the suppression of the rebellion throughout the Empire, alleging that everything was left to Admiral Popoff, who is now in Japan.

M. Petchroff left this port about a fortnight since to join the Russian Admiral in Japan.

Admiral Kuper tells me that M. Petchroff visited him just before his departure and the communication he then made corroborates this statement. Other information I have been unable to obtain. Should any further movements take place on the part of the Russians, or should any intelligence reach me of the probable arrival of the force here, I will take the first opportunity of reporting the same for your information.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MARKHAM.

No. 84.

*The Shanghai Chamber of Commerce to Earl Russell.—(Received January 20, 1863.)**British Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai,**September 4, 1862.*

My Lord,

WE, the undermentioned members of the British Chamber of Commerce of Shanghai, had the honour to address your Lordship on the 20th August, 1861,* respecting abuses in the administration of the Imperial Maritime Customs in China, which seriously injured our commercial interest; but we regret that up to the present time we have not been favoured with a reply; and although the Honourable F. A. Bruce, Her Britannic Majesty's Minister at Peking has applied a partial remedy in some few instances to the evils complained of, the chief grievances remain unaltered.

Whilst again soliciting your favourable consideration of those subjects upon which we have before written, we would respectfully draw your Lordship's attention to further restrictions which the Chinese Government seek to impose upon our Treaty privileges: we allude to the alterations now being made in the Regulations of Trade on the Yang-tze-kiang River, and to the limitation of the right to resort to the interior for purposes of trade.

When the navigation of the Yang-tze-kiang River was opened to foreigners in April 1861, the Regulations provided that all duties, whether import or export, should be paid in Shanghai or Chin-kiang-foo, and that above the latter port the whole of the river up to Hankow should be open to foreign trade.

This system has given general satisfaction during the experience of the past year, but we now learn with regret that the Chinese Government dispute the right of foreigners to trade upon the river, excepting at the Consular ports of Chin-kiang-foo, Kiu-kiang, and Hankow, and further wish to establish Custom-houses at the two last-named places.

The importance of such a surrender of privileges can scarcely be over-estimated, whether the value of the right given up be regarded, or the dangerous precedent of yielding up a concession, once obtained, to the demands of the Chinese. His Excellency Lord Elgin was well aware of the advantages to commerce in the arrangements made by Sir Harry Parkes under his instructions, as he especially mentions the importance of paying the duties at Shanghai or Chin-kiang-foo, so that above that up to Hankow, "the whole coast trade of the river" might be open to foreign enterprise; and it seems needless to point out to your Lordship the benefits of being able to trade at any place in 450 miles of a river running through the richest

* See Appendix.

provinces in China, compared with being confined to three Consular ports in the same distance, as it is obvious that by delivering foreign goods at or near the place of consumption, and by receiving teas and other produce at the country of their growth, considerable expense in transit is avoided, besides the heavy extortion of the local mandarins. The establishment of Custom-houses above Chin-kiang, in place of the system now in force, will occasion much delay and trouble to the trader, and will add nothing to the revenue of China whilst it increases the cost of its collection; nor can it be urged by the Chinese that it is necessary to collect foreign duties at Hankow and Kiu-kiang for local purposes, for obviously till the opening of the river, all the produce from those places and manufactures consumed there, paid duty at Shanghai or Canton, so that the opening of the river could not deprive them of local revenue before enjoyed.

We now refer to the second point, viz., the limitation of our right to trade in the interior. During the month of May this year, a circular was sent to the British community at Kiu-kiang by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul there, in which he informed them that Her Britannic Majesty's Minister at Peking, although admitting the rights of British subjects to go into the interior for trading purposes, decided that whilst there they could not open or rent hongs or buildings, or reside permanently, but must live in inns, boats, or Chinese houses.

It might be supposed that the right to trade would include a right to do acts necessary to conduct such trade, and without extensive premises to carry on the business of a merchant is manifestly impossible; but even were it not so, the XIIIth Article of the Treaty expressly states that British merchants may purchase or rent land or buildings "whether at the ports or other places," and thus we can only regard the prohibition of the British Minister as directly opposed to this clause of the Treaty.

The objections to foreign merchants holding buildings in the interior, if raised by the Chinese authorities, can only arise from a wish to drive them away to the Consular ports, so that the internal trade may continue in the hands of the native dealers, whom they can extort money from more successfully than from the foreigner, and from a desire to resume the old exclusive policy of China, which western nations have striven so hard to overcome.

In calling your Lordship's attention to these two points, which in themselves we regard as of the first importance to our future trade with China, we would respectfully urge what past experience amply proves, that in dealing with an Asiatic nation like the Chinese, any surrender of a right is attributed by them to any cause rather than forbearance on our part, and on that account, if for no other, such a surrender should never be made; and we are of opinion that a firm and decided tone in demanding all privileges accorded to the British nation by the late Treaty of Tien-tsin, will best preserve that peace which all classes, and more especially merchants, are so anxious to maintain.

We have, &c.
(Signed) W. R. ADAMSON & Co.
(And 27 others.)

No. 85.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received January 27, 1863.)

(Extract.)

Peking, September 17, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a despatch from Mr. Medhurst, giving an account of a robbery of cash and bullion committed near Shanghai by the Europeans to whom the owners had confided their property. Two of the Chinese boatmen who attempted to resist were shot by these ruffians.

Mr. Medhurst states that he has reason to believe that the class of Europeans employed in this description of service commit atrocities of all kinds in the inner waters, which the Chinese authorities and people are unable to prevent.

The same class of Europeans is largely engaged in the trade carried on in luggers up the Yang-tze River, and they form settlements at different points on the banks exempt from Consular control. Collisions, attended with loss of life, have taken place latterly between them and the native authorities and population; and the consequences of the bad feeling thus engendered are not unlikely to prejudice seriously our friendly relations with the inhabitants of Central China.

The desire to trade is so strong among the Chinese, and their wishes are so much attended to by the local authorities, that although only two ports above Chin-kiang were opened by the arrangement I entered into with the Prince of Kung, trade was tacitly permitted at other places. But the lawless and violent conduct of the European settlers has led to collisions and loss of life, and the local authorities, in self-defence, have been obliged to bring the subject under the notice of the Imperial Government at Peking. The Foreign Board has consequently issued instructions not to allow the formation of these settlements, and is taking measures to limit trade to the specified ports. It is the more inclined to this course as these men, protected under foreign flags, carry provisions and other necessities for the supply of the positions occupied by the insurgents.

Whether the future development of trade and the gradual opening of China are to be acquired by negotiation with the Government, or by availing ourselves of the wish of the people to trade and of the reluctance of the authorities to interfere, it is evident that the most serious difficulty we have to contend with is the misconduct of foreigners themselves; quarrels take place, the authorities are compelled to make inquiry, and for fear of being denounced, they make a report to Peking. The Imperial Government, from [habit] as well as from traditional jealousy, feel reluctant to sanction any step beyond the Treaty, and they are confirmed in their aversion to extended intercourse by the scenes of disorder and violence enacted at these [clandestine] settlements. They infer that foreigners will not live peaceably and quietly unless they are under the direct supervision of the national authority, and [they shrink] from the consequences that might ensue were they to repress by force the excesses committed. They call, therefore, for the strict execution of the Treaty.

The gradual and peaceful extension of our trading intercourse to places not opened by Treaty is rendered most difficult of achievement by the disorderly conduct of the adventurers into whose hands this trade generally falls.

Inclosure in No. 85.

Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Shanghai, August 25, 1862.

A FLAGRANT case of robbery by foreigners occurred on the river near Sung-keang on the 15th instant. Messrs. Shaw, Ripley and Co., and a Chinese merchant, had dispatched three boats with 15,000 dollars up country, in charge of a Chinese shroff, under the protection of two foreigners named Williams and Turner, reputed to be British subjects. On the way, another boat joined the fleet, with four or five other men, also foreigners, and kept in company until they reached a quiet part of the river suited to their purpose, when Turner and Williams, assisted by the strangers, robbed one of the boats of 5,000 dollars and [6] pieces of sycee. Two of the boatmen, who offered some resistance, they shot.

Curiously enough, the ruffians brought down their booty to Shanghai, and shipped part of it on board of a schooner belonging to Messrs. Shaw, Ripley and Co., for Ningpo, little thinking by whom she was owned. There they set to work washing the chops off from the dollars, and a Chinese on board, seeing this, instantly gave information to the firm. Application being thereon made to me, I sent a warrant on board and secured two of the robbers, one of whom was instantly identified by the shroff as the man who shot the boatmen, together with all of the booty in their charge, and, before twenty-four hours were over, the American Marshall, a particularly energetic detective, had secured two more men, and found some more of the booty. Two of the prisoners turned out to be Italians and the other two Americans; but there are still two more, who are English, and for whom I am still on the look-out. The Italians I have handed over to the Italian Consul, on the understanding that he will subject them to a formal trial and deportation to Italy, there to undergo any penalty he may award. The Americans are also awaiting their trial.

I am sorry to say that the inner channels are very much infested with men of this character, and I fear that they are guilty of atrocities of the most frightful kind, which the Chinese people and authorities are powerless to defend themselves from.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. H. MEDHURST.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received January 27, 1863.)

My Lord,

Peking, September 20, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, copy of an interesting despatch from Mr. Consul Harvey, at Ningpo, with its inclosure from Mr. Interpreter Hewlett, giving an account of the recapture by the Imperialists of the town of Yu-yaou, and the sentiments entertained on the subject by the Chinese population.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 86.

Consul Harvey to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.)

Ningpo, August 11, 1862.

I HAVE the satisfaction of reporting to your Excellency that the town of Yü-yaou, distant some thirty miles from Ningpo, and lying nearly half-way between this city and Shaou-hing-foo, was re-captured by the Imperial troops on the 2nd instant. The allied Anglo-French naval force was present, affording its support and countenance in the demonstrations against the town, which fell, on the second day of the attack, into the hands of the mandarins. These latter were assisted, or more properly speaking led and headed, by the new Chinese recruits, 400 in number, embodied under the French flag; and who have, as a nucleus of a larger force, been organized and disciplined at this port, by the Commander of the war-steamer "Confucius," who officiates likewise as French Consul at Ningpo. There were likewise engaged in the assault a few hundreds of Ward's Chinese troops (now numbering 1,260 in these districts); and all these native corps appear to have behaved and fought with much gallantry. The Yü-yaou rebels abandoned the place in great disorder and panic, and such was their hurried flight that they ran out of the town without even closing the city gates, by which the besiegers quietly entered and took full and undisputed possession of Yü-yaou.

The fall of this town is another serious blow struck at the Tae-pings; and if the Imperialists can only be induced to listen to reason and sound advice, with which advice their own personal interests are intimately linked, they will at once follow up this advantage by an attack on Shaou-hing-foo, the fall of which will, in some measure, save finally this beautiful province. The capture of Shaou-hing is the key to this success, and the pivot on which turn the safety, prosperity, and well-being of extensive districts, full of natural wealth and rich productions, in which, as a commercial nation, we must always feel a deep interest. Shaou-hing is the heart or main artery of Ningpo; and inasmuch as I gave up all hope of Ningpo being saved, last November, when Shaou-hing was captured by the rebels, so I humbly opine now that the re-capture of that city and important granary will have a proportionate reactionary effect in favour of the Imperial cause. It will not be my fault if the siege is not laid before it with despatch. General Ward, with whom I had a long consultation on this subject, during my recent visit to Shanghai, assured me that he would turn his serious attention to that point, in a very few weeks' time. General Ward is personally anxious, I could perceive, to hasten operations in that quarter; but these cannot be commenced without a strong land force, as well as a few Chinese flat-bottom boats, to be used as gun-boats for shelling purposes. Our ships of war, as your Excellency is aware, cannot get up to Shaou-hing, the Yü-yaou river ending several miles below it, on our side of Ningpo; and the usual Chinese canals being the only high road to the proposed scene of operations.

Meanwhile, the fall of Yü-yaou has been the means of saving this year's rich crop of rice, which is now being garnered in the farms and homesteads of its legitimate proprietors, the industrious Chinese, in lieu of being piled up in the granaries of the Tae-ping brigands. On this subject and other local matters of interest, I beg to submit a comprehensive memorandum, which I have directed Mr. Acting Interpreter Hewlett to prepare for your Excellency's information.

The city of Ningpo is now in such a complete state of defence and military organization (effected under the joint action of English and French authorities) that there need be no possible apprehension as to its permanent safety; and every day new

measures are adopted, and means devised to increase its strength, to insure its protection, and to render it as impregnable as circumstances will admit of. The chief, and almost only, difficulty lies in the want of money, which can only be got from the mandarins to pay for works, guns, soldiers, &c., &c., after an amount of trouble and vexation almost unimaginable, and certainly worthy of a better cause.

It is of no use writing notes, or sending in formal applications, unless these are accompanied by strenuous efforts, energetic appeals, and other modes of proceeding which are as harassing to mind and body as in the end they are almost discouraging. The side that holds out longest finally carries the point, and so in the end the money is doled out, until the time comes round once more for another fight, which is, of course, decided upon quite a new field of action!

Your Excellency can easily conceive what amount of temper and patience is required with these impracticable officials, who will do nothing themselves, and yet will hamper our course when we assist them to perform their own work.

Captain Dew, of Her Majesty's ship "Encounter," has had immense difficulties to overcome, in order to bring the military matters of this city to their present satisfactory footing; and altogether, British authorities do not hold sinecures, just at present, in the North of China.

In conclusion, I am happy to add that this city is re-filling itself very rapidly. The old shops of note are re-opening fast; families of wealth are returning; business is on the increase; trade is reviving within and without the walls; and, in short, joy and contentment beam upon every Chinaman's face. To those who, like myself, saw this city for five months under rebel rule, and compare its then terrible state with its actual happy condition, the change seems hardly credible, though the fact is simple and patent to all, and the reason more than obvious. The fall of Yü-yaou will doubtless now complete the work of confidence, as the hoped-for capture of Shaou-hing will develop the prosperity of Ningpo; for I am informed that numbers of family men of position who, with their wives and children, had kept aloof, waiting for the Yü-yaou River to be clear of the brigands, and the communication with the agricultural and producing districts to be reopened, will now hasten to flock back to Ningpo, to take up once more their domicile, in full confidence and security, in their family homes and native city.

Inclosure 2 in No. 86.

Memorandum of Rebel News in the Province of Che-kiang.

THE accounts from the interior of the province represent the rebel cause as declining for the most part everywhere but in Shaou-hing and the four northern departments. At Keu-chow-foo, the Governor, T'so Tsung-tang, attended and aided by Li Yuen-too, now promoted to rank of Provincial Treasurer, has gained several victories over the rebels in those parts, and has pushed his successes to within the Department of Kiu-hwa.

At Choo-ki, the wizard Paou Leih-sang is still holding out at his native village, in spite of all the efforts of the rebels to eject him. They are said to be much exasperated at their repeated failures. Ten "choo-tsiang," or generals, each in command of a large body of troops, have, on separate occasions, tried to take the place, and met each time with a signal defeat. Wonderful stories are told of the ingenious plans resorted to by the rebels to ensure themselves victory, and equally wonderful accounts are given of the means adopted by Paou Leih-sang for the defeat of the enemy's stratagems. On one occasion, after repeated repulses, the rebels bethought themselves of a novel mode of attack. They collected several herds of oxen, armed their horns and sides with swords and spears, and attaching a light to their tails drove them furiously on to the village of Paou. But Paou Leih-sang had contrived to get warning of the threatened danger, and had made preparations against it. On entering the village, the herd found their progress arrested by an enormous pile of blazing fuel. This so terrified them that they turned back and rushed wildly amongst the bodies of advancing Tae-pings, numbers of whom perished miserably. Further accounts narrate how, on a subsequent occasion, Paou Leih-sang entrapped and destroyed many of the enemy in pitfalls, and how, having caught them in a narrow gully, he caused to be opened the dykes and sluices, whereby numbers perished in the inundation. He is spoken of now more as a general than a wizard, and is praised for his skill in making attacks, laying ambushes, and other military manœuvres.

Yü-yaou having been captured by the Imperialists, through the co-operation of the allied naval forces, on the 2nd of August, the main body of rebels retreated upon Shang-yü, a walled city ten miles higher up the river; but having been refused admittance there by the garrison, who jeered at them for their defeat, they dispersed in different directions about the country. Ho Wan-king, quondam Imperialist mandarin, and lately rebel Governor at Chinhae, to whose defection to the Tae-ping cause is attributed in a great degree the extraordinary success that cause met with in these Departments last year, and who has, on that account, incurred the utter detestation of all classes of the people, pushed towards the Tsaou-wo River, with the intention of returning to his native place, Choo-ki. He was prevented, however, by the rebels, who insisted on his remaining in charge of a position but thirty-five *li* from Yü-yaou. His division, which includes but few of the "Laou-changmaou," or veritable Tae-pings, is the nearest body of rebels in the vicinity of Yü-yaou. Probably, unless he feels he has committed himself now too far to go back, the efforts of the mandarins to induce him to abandon the Tae-ping cause (by no means a very promising one just at present) will not be unsuccessful.

From Yü-yaou down to Ningpo the whole country is fast reviving from the death-like stupor that oppressed it under the Tae-ping sway. Sad traces still remain, indeed, telling too distinctly of what the land has gone through. On each bank of the river you see ruined villages, blackened homesteads, bridges broken down, and temples savagely demolished (the picturesque little town of Tsz-chee, once famed for its villas, the abode of the great and wealthy of Ningpo, is now little else than a heap of ruins); but yet there are abundant signs of resuscitation. Villagers are returning to their homes, work is going on in the fields, and something like trade is springing up at the old market towns.

The recapture of Yü-yaou was just soon enough to prevent the greater portion of the first crop of rice falling into the hands of the invaders—a consideration of no small moment, when we recollect the amount of suffering that these districts have undergone during the last six months, and the consequent impoverishment of the inhabitants.

In the direction of Funghwa, to the south-west of this place, the cities and towns are still held by the Imperialists, though the rebels occupy the country beyond the passes.

(Signed) A. R. HEWLETT, *Acting Interpreter.*

No. 87.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received January 27, 1863.)

My Lord,

Peking, September 20, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, herewith, copy of a despatch from Mr. Acting Vice-Consul Forrest, who reports on the flourishing condition of the port of Kiu-kiang.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure in No. 87.

Acting Vice-Consul Forrest to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Kiu-kiang, August 2, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the Returns of British trade of the port of Kiu-kiang for the half-year ending 30th June, 1862.

The number of ships entered inwards and outwards is 86; total tonnage, 17,200.

As regards the port itself, everything is highly flourishing.

All the ground in the western (foreign) suburb is being built upon, and the native population are crowding back. I fear the British Concession will prove too small for the purposes of trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. J. FORREST.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received January 27, 1863.)

My Lord,

Peking, September 22, 1862.

THE Chamber of Commerce at Shanghae has forwarded for my perusal copy of an Address presented to your Lordship, in which the right is claimed to trade at all places on the Yang-tze River, together with the privilege of erecting hongcs and warehouses in the interior, under Article XII of the Treaty of Tien-tsin. The Memorialists state that Regulations are proposed which are inconsistent with those privileges; and they request your Lordship not to allow these alleged rights to be infringed.

I cannot agree with the Chamber in holding that these rights have been conceded to us by the Chinese Government.

Your Lordship is in possession of the letter addressed by me in November 1860, to the Prince of Kung, and of his reply, respecting trade on the Yang-tze River.* The proposal, made and accepted, was confined to the opening of two ports on the Yang-tze River, above Chin-kiang.

Sir James Hope and Sir Harry Parkes, indeed, issued Regulations designed to permit trade on the whole river; but those Regulations were subject to the approval of the Chinese Government, and the Prince of Kung distinctly refused, from the first, to agree to them. He declined to do more than open two ports, as originally demanded, a concession beyond what we were by Treaty entitled to ask; and I could not, consistently with good faith, and in the teeth of my own proposal, press the question, as I should have done had the Prince tried to draw back from a previous engagement.

It is, therefore, a singular misapprehension of what has taken place, to say that the Chinese Government, in attempting to limit trade on the Yang-tze to the open ports, are retracting what they had previously conceded to us.

The proposed Regulations have not yet been submitted to discussion, but I am aware of the objections that will be made by the Chinese Government to allowing indiscriminate trade along the river banks. They plead the loss of the revenue accruing from the non-receipt of the transit-duty, which would be levied were the goods landed at a specified port, and thence distributed throughout the country.

If vessels are allowed to take in cargoes at Shanghae on payment only of Customs dues, and sell them where they choose along the 600 miles that separate it from Han-kow, lorchas and small craft will be employed to trade along the banks, and the Chinese revenue will no doubt seriously suffer. This loss might be met, indeed, by requiring vessels to pay both the Customs duty and the $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. (commuted transit duty) at Shanghae; but I doubt very much whether such an arrangement would prove satisfactory to the mercantile community. Besides the objection which the Chinese advance on the score of diminution of revenue (and no one can dispute its force who considers the efforts they are making to restore tranquillity in the centre of China), they allege other objections of considerable weight, founded partly on the disturbed state of the Provinces on the lower part of the Yang-tze-kiang, and partly, I regret to say, on the conduct of the foreign adventurers who already carry on this clandestine traffic.

Your Lordship is aware that the Chinese Government look to famine as the most sure means of recapturing the positions held by the Tae-pings. The Rules for the navigation of the Yang-tze were calculated to prevent the introduction from the sea-coast of arms and ammunition, to which I subsequently added measures destined to prevent a trade in supplies; but it is hopeless to expect, if a river coasting-trade is carried on under foreign flags, which claim exemption from, and resist by force, the interference of Chinese cruizers, that these vessels will not engage in the profitable trade of supplying the wants of the insurgent forces. They will buy provisions, &c., in the quiet districts, and convey them to places held by the Tae-pings.

I am at a loss to devise any scheme by which the Chinese Government could be guaranteed against such a proceeding, which would be a breach of the tacit engagement we entered into when the Prince of Kung consented to open partially the river trade; and I consider that, without being able to afford some satisfactory security on that head, it would be an act of bad faith and of bad policy to attempt to extort from the fears of this Government the concession demanded. When the

* See "Further Correspondence respecting Affairs in China (Expedition up the Yang-tze-kiang)," presented to Parliament, February 1861, Inclosures in No. 1.

opening of the river was first considered, one of the ablest of the mercantile gentlemen at Shanghai expressed his opinion that it would be the making of the rebels; and I agree with his opinion, unless the trade be confined to the ports in possession of the Imperialists, and to the interchange, between them and the coast, of the legitimate articles of mutual traffic.

A further objection is drawn by the Chinese from the misconduct of the foreigners so employed, and from the acts of violence and the disturbances which take place when they are allowed to frequent places where they are not subject to Consular control.

I have drawn your Lordship's attention to this subject in my despatches, and I have pointed out the injurious effect produced on the progressive development of our trading interests in China by the disorders and lawlessness that invariably accompany their presence. I have instanced Chusan, Chin-hae, and Wen-chow, as places which have been closed against us, the authorities having been compelled in self-defence to appeal to the strict letter of the Treaty.*

It is idle to expect that Her Majesty's Minister can obtain concessions as long as his arguments in favour of the benefits of extended intercourse are answered by proofs that it is attended by disorders which the Chinese are too timid, and we are unable, to repress.

Her Majesty's Government must not deceive itself as to the feelings of the Chinese Government on this subject. The Chinese look upon tranquillity and order as the main ends of a Government. Their internal administration is based on the assumption that the influential and respectable classes are inclined to respect and uphold the law. It is consequently weak, and has been little accustomed to deal with open defiance and contempt of authority. No Chinese statesmen will hesitate in sacrificing the hopes of increased revenue and commercial activity, if these advantages are to be accompanied by scenes of violence and disorder. Even the local authorities, who from personal motives are willing enough to connive at the infraction of fiscal restraints, only do so on condition that no scandal ensues.

While trade was in the hands of a few large houses, Settlements such as Swatow grew up without remonstrance; but since it has fallen into the hands of the class of adventurers who are employed in the command of lorchas, &c., their course is marked by a want of consideration for the people, and by a disregard for the authorities, which renders their presence a formidable bar to pacific progress.

As respects the right to open warehouses in the interior, it is one which cannot, in my opinion, be sustained, either on the letter or on the spirit of the Treaty of Tien-tsin. The word "places" was introduced to prevent any chicanery on the word "ports;" and the clause was intended to refer to any other ports or places not mentioned in the Treaty which the Chinese Government might hereafter consent to open to foreigners. But it was not intended to open by a side wind the whole of China to British residents, which is the construction put on the words by the Memorialists.

It is true, however, as respects imports, the passport clause is one that presents difficulties in making it of much practical value. The construction I have put on it is contained in the accompanying despatch. At the same time I informed the Government here that if there was any attempt to reduce it to a nullity by preventing persons from disposing of their goods, I should claim the right for them to open hongs in the places they might select. But I fear that if we attempted to exercise any general right of the kind, it would lead to endless difficulties, as we could neither ensure security to the persons or property of those who would establish themselves in the interior, nor could we exercise over them any effectual control.

In conclusion, I may add that I look upon our position on the Yang-tze River as provisional, so long as the insurrection is in force in that quarter. We have no right to be there at all, and we are at least under a moral obligation to take care that our traffic on the river is not injurious to the interests of the Government which consented to the arrangement.

* *Extract from Mr. Bruce's despatch of May 30, 1861*:—"It is a fact deserving of serious attention that at Chin-hae, Chusan, and Wen-chow, Europeans were received well both by the authorities and by the inhabitants in the first instance; that they were allowed to reside at these places without molestation, and to carry on at Wen-chow a considerable trade; that being unfortunately unrestrained by any authority, bad characters gradually accumulated there, and not content with committing outrages on the defenceless inhabitants, they have at length proceeded to perpetrate piracy and robbery in the ports and neighbouring waters, and to hire themselves out to the native salt-smugglers, to assist them in setting the Government at defiance. The Chinese Government has at last decided on closing these towns against foreigners, and have called on the Consuls to assist in enforcing the prohibition."

It is unreasonable to expect that trade can be carried on in a district which is the seat of civil war without the inconveniences and restraints due to that unhappy situation.

I shall endeavour to reconcile the interests of trade with what is due to good faith, and to a desire not to throw obstacles in the way in the restoration of tranquillity, the true interest both of the Chinese and foreigner, but I cannot expect to satisfy either party.

I inclose a despatch from Mr. Consul Gingell, which will show that the establishment of a Custom-house at Han-kow will tend to conciliate the authorities there, and will meet the wants of the community. It will also, I trust, enable the purchasers of produce to obtain the benefit of the transit-duty clause, which has not hitherto been the case. It will, however, materially interfere with indiscriminate trade on the Yang-tze river banks.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 1 n No. 88.

Circular addressed by Mr. Bruce to Her Majesty's Consuls in China.

Sir, *Peking, May 5, 1862.*

QUESTIONS have arisen as to the construction to be put upon the Article of the Treaty of Tien-tsin that allows Her Majesty's subjects to accompany their goods to places in the interior not opened for residence by Treaty.

In the first place I may observe that, by Article 7 of the Rules appended to the Tariff, it is made obligatory on any British subject wishing to pass goods into the interior, either in his own charge or that of his agent, that he should pay the half-duty, and obtain a transit-duty certificate for the same. The object of this arrangement was to prevent the discussions and remonstrances which would have been sure to arise had they attempted to carry goods subject to the Chinese arrangements with reference to internal Custom-houses.

The privilege of trading in the interior does not confer any right of permanent residence in such places. Her Majesty's subjects cannot, therefore, claim the right to open hongs, or to erect buildings with a view of forming trading establishments there. At the same time, it is equally clear that it does involve the right of disposing of such goods.

There can be, therefore, no objection to their residing either in beats, at inns, or at the houses of Chinese, as may be required, to effect sales of their goods, and to purchase produce in return.

I am, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 88.

Consul Gingell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir, *Hankow, August 29, 1862.*

I INCLOSE copy of a letter, with translation, the subject-matter of which is the establishment of a Custom-house system at this port.

The original Chinese letter I returned in consequence of Sir James Hope being made mention of in a very disrespectful manner, and at the time of writing this it has not yet been returned.

Immediately upon its receipt I called upon the Taoutai, and discussed the subject with him, pointing out that as the Provisional Regulations provided for the payment of all duties at Shanghai, it was useless to form a Customs establishment. At the same time he was informed that I could sanction no arrangement which in the slightest degree nullified the Rules under which trade on the Yang-tze River had been opened, without first submitting it to your Excellency.

The Taoutai fully agreed with me, and said he should, in his Report to the Viceroy, point out that the system was undesirable, even for mere examination, as it would entail the expense of maintaining a large staff without a fraction of duty being received in return. He, however, agreed with me in thinking that the establishment of a Custom-house for the receipt of duties here, instead of at Shanghai, would in many respects be an advantage to the port of Hankow.

Under the Provisional Regulations, the port of Hankow has been opened in a most favourable manner—no detention of, or obstruction to, vessels, their immediate discharge of imports; while produce has been with great facility loaded for export.

Such could scarcely have been expected under a newly-appointed staff of Chinese officials, unaccustomed to the routine of the foreign mode of transacting business; but now that the trade is fairly confirmed, the mandarins would manifest greater interest in the advancement of the port, and would feel more satisfaction in seeing foreign vessels trading under a Custom-house system which required the payment of dues and duties here rather than at Shanghai, which port obtains, they have expressed themselves, more than its share of credit for the duties it pays into the Imperial Treasury.

As the Viceroy has already memorialized the Imperial Government, I doubt not your Excellency will have the subject brought to your notice by the Prince of Kung.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. RAYMOND GINGELL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 88.

Messrs. Evans, Hudson, &c., to Consul Gingell.

(Extract.)

Hankow, January 17, 1862.

THERE is another and important question we would beg to call to your notice also, viz.:—

As it is more than probable that sailing vessels in tow of steamers will load tea and produce here direct for England this next season, it would be a great desideratum if the Customs would collect the export duties here, or take a bond from the shippers for the payment thereof in Shanghai.

As the Customs are now established here, this would entail no additional expense on that institution beyond a few watchers to take note of the quantity of tea, &c., shipped.

We would venture strongly to urge this question on your consideration, as it would be an invaluable boon to foreign interests, and would not injure the revenue. The vessels would not, if this point is conceded, require to go to Shanghai, but would at once proceed to sea from Woo-sung, after receiving their papers from Her Majesty's Consulate at Shanghai.

We beg that you will lay these views before Her Majesty's Minister at Peking at your earliest convenience, with your recommendation should you share them with us.

(Signed by twelve Commercial Houses.)

No. 89.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received February 3, 1863.)

My Lord,

Peking, October 6, 1862.

IN a memorial addressed to the Throne, on the financial condition of the Canton province, there is a statement of some interest with respect to the Customs revenue at the port of Canton.

Before the Treaty of 1842, when Canton was the only port open to foreign trade, the revenue from Customs was assessed at 900,000 taels (300,000*l.*)

On the opening of the four new ports stipulated by the Treaty, the revenue from Customs diminished, and in 1857-58 it did not reach 400,000 taels (133,000*l.*) On the introduction of the foreign element into its management the revenue rose, and in 1861 the receipts were 1,400,000 taels (470,000*l.*) Deducting 40 per cent. (560,000 taels = 187,000*l.*) payable for the indemnities, there remain 840,000 taels (280,000*l.*), being not far short of the sum derived from the whole foreign trade of China, when concentrated at one port.

The results of foreign management have been the same at every port where it has been introduced; and looking to the recovery of the indemnities, and to the great importance of the Chinese Government not being deprived of funds at a moment when it is striving to restore tranquillity to the country, I think your Lordship will agree

in the policy of upholding the system against the clamour of those who are interested in returning to the former corrupt and unsatisfactory Customs administration.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

P.S.—I have just heard the results of the first month's collection at Amoy. The estimate of the Chinese authorities was 5,000 taels (1,666*l.*), and the receipts were 30,000 taels (10,000*l.*)

F. W. A. B.

No. 90.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received February 3, 1863.)

(Extract.)

Peking, October 10, 1862.

THE employment of steamers in the coasting and river-trade is likely to lead to a partial introduction of bonded warehouses in China.

At the Pagoda Island anchorage, twelve miles below Foo-chow-foo, a bonded warehouse is being built, for the speedy despatch of the steamers.

At Shanghae large warehouses have been built by Messrs. Russell and Co., an American house, on what is called the French concession, where goods are deposited without payment of duties, until time is afforded to decide on their destination.

I expect before long that the system will be carried out on a large scale at Woo-sung, for the accommodation of the trade on the Yang-tze River.

These facilities to trade are the result of having an European element in the Chinese Customs, and I confidently look forward to these legitimate facilities being gradually increased.

No. 91.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received February 3, 1863.)

My Lord,

Peking, October 13, 1862.

I AM informed by the Russian Minister that orders have been sent from St. Petersburg to the officer commanding the Russian squadron in these seas to co-operate with Her Majesty's naval forces in protecting the Treaty ports against the insurgents.

The Russians have a force of ten vessels, steam-corvettes and despatch-vessels, on the station, which are capable of rendering very efficient aid.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

No. 92.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received February 3, 1863.)

(Extract.)

Peking, October 13, 1862.

THE visits paid by the highest authorities to Mr. Hart show that the cordial reception given by the Prince and his associates, at Peking, to that gentleman, are not an empty pretence; but that the honesty and ability with which he serves the interests of the Chinese Government are really valued.

But a few years ago, the Tartar Governor-General of Fokien, who now voluntarily opens the centre door of his hall to Mr. Hart, refused to show this mark of respect to Sir J. Bowring, Her Majesty's Minister, and only yielded when it was intimated that the visit could, in that case, not be paid.

Experience has confirmed me in the opinion as to the advantage to be derived in our relations with China, from introducing a foreign element into its Customs Executive. Nay, more, I am able now to state positively that without the help of this instrument the complicated details of drawbacks, exemption and transit-duty certificates, of warehouses and other facilities required for the rapid despatch of steamers, of bonds to prevent the river-trade from becoming the means of supplying resources to the insurgents, could neither have been settled nor put into operation. Moreover, to this element is due the realization of the revenue that pays the indemnities, that affords hope of arming and maintaining Chinese garrisons at Treaty-ports, and of providing funds to enable China to organize a force to police her waters. The confidence inspired in the Imperial Government by the superior honesty and practical ability of these foreigners has had much influence in reconciling this jealous and timid

Government to the employment of foreign officers in other branches of the public service.

There will be no avowedly hostile party if we succeed in showing to the Chinese that foreign trade brings with it revenue, and that intercourse with foreigners is consistent with internal tranquillity and with external peace. But there is no Chinese statesman who will not look upon the Treaties as an oppressive yoke, to be got rid of on the first favourable opportunity, if the above objects are not attained.

With respect to the revenue derived from foreign trade, two points are of essential importance, in order that the financial benefits to be derived from it may be appreciated:—

1. That it should be raised.

2. That its amount should be known to the Imperial Government, and that it should come into its hands, and not be muddled away and embezzled by the provincial authorities.

With respect to the first point, the Treaties have constituted a very artificial system which the Chinese, without foreign instruction, are quite unable to administer; and it is indispensable that they should have the aid of Europeans at first in organizing their Custom-house, as in disciplining their troops.

With respect to the second point, the Imperial Government, but for the information furnished through this improved organization, would never have known how large is the revenue to be derived from foreign trade, nor would it ever have been able to get it into its hands.

It is now in contemplation, on account of the connection that exists between Customs affairs and Treaty obligations, to take the administration entirely out of the hands of the local authorities, and appoint collectors of customs directly under, and responsible to, the Foreign Board at Peking. This will ensure unity of system, and the reference of all questions in dispute to the Minister and to the Government at Peking. I need not expatiate to your Lordship on the importance of this change, in providing, for the future, a peaceful solution for questions that may present themselves.

I have had occasion, frequently, to comment to your Lordship on the great difficulty of keeping foreigners within the limits of Treaties, arising from the reluctance of the Chinese Government to assert its own rights. This ignorance of what they may and of what they may not do, and their fear of the consequences of meddling with a foreigner, under any circumstances, tie their hands. They would willingly leave it to the foreign authority to restrain its own people, and confine themselves to complaining to him of illegal acts, while they remain passive and helpless spectators of the disorder and anarchy that ensues. Thus, where clandestine trading is carried on, where illegal settlements are formed at places not open by Treaty, where contraband trade is carried on under foreign flags, or even under fancy flags, they hesitate in adopting measures to stop these abuses, and they are allowed to go on unchecked, as at present on the Yang-tze river. These proceedings, however, lead to outrages, produce a profound feeling of hostility in the minds both of the population and of the authorities, and afford an unanswerable argument to those who represent foreign trade and intercourse as prejudicial to the State.

The greater the progress made by Treaties towards opening China, the more essential is it that the Chinese Government should be roused from this apathy, and compelled to act in defence of its rights. For it is quite impossible that this duty can be accomplished for them. On the other hand, it is a false position, and very inconvenient, that the foreign Minister should be constantly urging the Chinese Government to act against his own people, or against other foreigners, in its own defence. This branch of their international education must be undertaken by competent persons in their own service, if it is to be effectually done. They are identified with Chinese interests, and are listened to with confidence. It is for them to tell the Chinese Government what, according to established usage, are their rights; how far they can act with vigour without compromising themselves; and by what instruments the end can be achieved. However much, for instance, I may be anxious to see the Chinese Government assert itself, it will not answer for me to point out in detail how these principles are to be carried out in practice. Mistakes will be committed through the inexperience and ignorance of its subordinates, and it will not do in such cases, whether the injury be done to British or other foreign subjects, that the Chinese should be able to plead, in extenuation, that they have acted by my advice.

I see no way in which this desirable object can be attained, except through the Customs establishment, and the executive which will be formed in connection with it, under Captain Osborn, or some other competent naval officer; and I believe in supporting a system which holds out a fair prospect of demonstrating to the Chinese that trade benefits the revenue of the State, and is compatible with tranquillity and order, I am

doing what is consistent with our real interests, and with the principles which ought to regulate the conduct of a State which, in forcing commercial relations upon a reluctant Government, has come under the obligation to prove that it has not sacrificed its interests to commercial cupidity. These questions cannot be dealt with in a narrow-minded spirit, nor can they be permitted to find their own solution, for though it is true that among States where similarity of civilization and ideas prevail, commerce is the harbinger of peace, it is not less true that in a country like China, commercial enterprise, if abandoned to its unchecked impulses, will either lead to a suicidal catastrophe, or become the herald of war.

No. 93.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received January 18, 1863.)

My Lord,

Peking, October 25, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose extract from a Report of Mr. Gingell containing a satisfactory account of the progress made at Hankow.

I trust that the Imperial Government will be sufficiently strong to prevent this important centre of trade from being again laid desolate by the Tae-ping banditti.

I inclose a Return showing the number and tonnage of the vessels employed in this trade, and the value of exports and imports ; also a Return of the foreign residents and establishments at Hankow.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 93.

Extract of Report by Consul Gingell on Trade at Hankow during the half-year ended June 30, 1862.

IN consequence of the large number of steamers running on the Yang-tze, freights have considerably lowered, and the average rate hence to Shanghai for the half-year was ten taels ; some of the fast river-boats, however, getting a tael, or even two, per ton higher.

Nearly all the river-frontage extending from the foot of the Han-yang hill to a mile and a-half below the British concession has been secured by foreigners ; above the concession, both on the Han-yang and Hankow sides, a great number of large and valuable hong's and go-downs have been erected by the foreign merchants, who have thus gradually vacated the originally leased Chinese hong's in various parts of Hankow, to occupy buildings erected on ground along the river-frontage. Some of the buildings extend to and meet the upper boundary of the British concession. The Chinese are still returning and buildings are being run up to meet the demand in every part of Hankow, where a year since was presented a spectacle of ruin and destruction caused by the last visit of the rebels to Hankow.

The rich Shen-se merchants are, however, returning slowly. The fall of Ningpo to the rebels at the close of last year is alleged as having materially affected their confidence in the confirmed safety of Hankow. There is little doubt, however, that the security which foreigners exhibit, evinced by the large and valuable go-downs erected by them and the continued addition to their number almost by every steamer, must have the effect of removing any doubt which may be deterring these Chinese merchants from returning to Hankow as fixed residents. The clearance too of Chinese houses from nearly the whole British settlement must convince the Chinese mind generally that foreigners consider themselves established in safety. There has been a steady increase of trade, and the imports on British vessels, for the half-year, exhibit 2,574,666 taels, against 2,384,828 taels for the year ending 1861 ; while the exports show 1,798,037 taels, against 1,654,317 for the same period. A very fair amount of imports have been sold for cash payments ; of tea, up to date, there have been upwards of 300 chop's exported.

According to the Returns which this office has been able to collect, American tonnage for the half-year shows an increase of 1,702 tons on the year 1861. I have not been able to obtain a Return of the goods imported and exported on these vessels ; doubtless their cargoes are quite as valuable in proportion on these vessels as on British bottoms, still a considerable portion thereof must be considered as British-owned.

There is a marked difference in the conduct of the Chinese towards foreigners ; the objectionable epithets of "foreign devil," "foreign imp," &c., are much less frequently heard ; the braves too upon passing through Hankow no longer offer the insults and annoyances to foreigners such as a few months back were of too frequent occurrence.

The long-coveted collection of duties is still the main object which the Viceroy wishes to attain, and when this is accomplished the Chinese officials will, I think, be more ready and willing to offer those facilities to trade which, under Treaty, we have a right to expect. The system of issuing transit certificates is not as yet introduced, but recently the Superintendent of Customs has been issuing a pass to foreign merchants wishing to send into the interior to purchase teas, which exempts them from the levy of "lekin" toll.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. RAYMOND GINGELL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 93.

RETURN of the Number and Tonnage of British and French Merchant-Vessels, Junks, and Rafts, which Arrived at and Departed from the Port of Hankow, during the half-year from the 1st January to the 30th June, 1862 ; giving the Value of their Import and Export cargoes, &c.

ARRIVED.

Description and Flag.	Number.	Tonnage.	Value of Cargo.	
			Taels.	At Exchange of 6s. 6d. per tael.
				£ s. d.
British merchant-vessels (including 5 of 822 tons in ballast)	88	22,579	2,574,666	
British-owned junks (including 15 of 900 tons in ballast)	73	4,380	72,289	
Total	161	26,959	2,646,955	860,260 7 6
French merchant-vessels (including 1 of 40 tons in ballast)	10	420	40,300	
French-owned junks	3	210	5,400	
Total	13	630	45,700	14,852 10 0
Grand Total of French and English	..	..	..	875,112 17 6
American merchant-vessels	65*	19,698		

* With three exceptions, all steamers. Besides these, a large number of lorchas and junks, an account of which could not be obtained.

DEPARTED.

Description and Flag.	Number.	Tonnage.	Value of Cargo.	
			Taels.	At Exchange of 6s. 6d. per tael.
				£ s. d.
British merchant-vessels (including 5 of 1,121 tons in ballast)	89	23,278	1,798,037	
British-owned junks	197	12,805	389,142	
British-owned rafts	5	..	33,310	
Total	291	36,083	2,220,489	721,658 18 6
French merchant-vessels	9	360	11,050	
French-owned junks	40	2,400	61,236	
Total	49	2,760	72,286	23,492 19 0
Grand Total of French and English	..	..	..	745,151 17 6
American merchant-vessels	65†	19,698		

† See note on American Imports.

British Consulate, Hankow,
June 30, 1862.

(Signed) W. R. GINGELL,
Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.

Inclosure 3 in No. 93.

List of Foreign Residents in Hankow, June 30, 1862.

British Consulate.—W. R. Gingell, Consul; W. E. King, Interpreter; J. A. Webster, Assistant; J. Zar, Constable; G. Rombaldi, Second Constable.

French Consulate.—W. R. Gingell, Acting Consul.

American Consulate.—C. D. Williams, Consul.

Portuguese Consulate.—J. H. Evans, Consul.

Russian Consulate.—C. D. Williams, Consul.

Imperial Customs.—J. Dick, Customs Agent; H. Kopsch, Assistant; F. Wyon, C. Bennet, and G. Robinson, Tidewaiters.

Municipal Council.—J. C. Coutts, Chairman; J. MacKellar, J. F. Ballance.

Surgeon.—J. Falconer, M.D.

Protestant Missionaries.—G. John, and family; — Wilson, and family; and — Cox.

Roman Catholic Missionaries.—A. Vandagna; Bishop Spelta.

British Hongs and Residents.—R. Adamson & Co. (J. Baker); Commercial Bank (C. S. S. Lynil); George Barnet and Co. (J. F. Ballance); Cama and Co.; Coutts and Co. (J. C. Coutts, W. F. Gibbon); Davies (R. B. Davies); Dent and Co. (J. H. Evans, C. Beadel); Dow and Co. (J. H. Evans, C. Beadel); R. Dudley and Co. (R. Dudley, F. C. Clarke); Fletcher and Co. (J. M. Drysdale, F. Jerdein); Gibb, Livingstone and Co. (J. T. Hudson, E. H. Hancock); Gilman and Co. (H. Ramsay); Hawkins (J. Hawkins, baker); Hogg, Brothers (M. P. Evans); Holli-day, Wise and Co. (R. Dence); Jardine, Mathieson and Co. (H. Magniac, J. Lloyd); Kerr and Co. (E. P. Barrand, H. E. White); Lindsay and Co. (J. Ashton, J. Innes); Mackellar and Co. (J. Mackellar, W. G. Gordon, M. R. Mackellar); K. R. Mackenzie (K. R. Mackenzie, J. Birdseye, K. C. Dow); Morrison and Co. (Alan Morrison, Alex. Morrison, boat-builders); Morison and Edwards (J. L. Edwards); D. Sassoon, Sons and Co. (S. Abraham); Shaw, Ripley and Co. (J. Cull, J. H. Cheshire); Smith, Kennedy and Co. (R. H. Chambers, H. J. Clarke); Smith (— Smith, carpenter); Stone (— Stone, builder); Turner and Co. (A. Walkinshaw, R. Church, A. Wilcoxson); Weiss (W. Weiss); West (W. West, Gipkers, Clerk); A. Wilkinson and Co. (J. H. Higson, G. Weston); Craven Wilson (C. Wilson and family, F. H. Wilson and family).

American Hongs and Residents.—Doyen (J. J. Doyen); A. Heard and Co. (C. D. Williamson, J. Nutt, M. de Souza and family, J. Reripanoff); Howard and Co. (W. E. Stephenson, M. A. Jenkins); Olyphant and Co. (W. Neilson, G. Potts); Russell and Co. (R. S. Dana, E. Webb).

French Hongs and Residents.—Dupuis (J. Dupuis); Hankow Hotel (— Dubronguoy, S. Dubronguoy); Harkort and Co. (F. Borntraeger); Schellhass (F. J. Schellhass, C. Hagenmeyer); Siemsen and Co. (A. Joost, F. Luddeke).

Various.—E. Ellingham (Bremen), storekeeper; A. Petersen (Dane), boat-builder; Overweg and Co. (A. Figge, J. Mills).

Russians.—N. Ivanoff, A. Abvrin, Lebasknioff, Matreusky, Baloswatsoff, Permiskoff, Chersnakoff, W. Roleskin, T. Cheripanoff.

Eight Indian Servants.

Total—113 males, 8 females, 6 children—127.

British Consulate, Hankow, June 30, 1862.

(Signed)

W. RAYMOND GINGELL.

No. 94.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received January 18, 1863.)

My Lord,

Peking, October 25, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to forward a despatch from Mr. Harvey, inclosing an intercepted letter from a Tae-ping Chief to one of his associate leaders.

Its tone is desponding; the writer alludes to want of confidence among his followers, and he points out that the mode of warfare adopted has rendered the population hostile to their cause.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 94.

Consul Harvey to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Ningpo, September 24, 1862.

I LATELY received private information that a Chinese letter, addressed by one of the rebel leaders in this province to a subordinate Chief stationed some fifty miles from the writer's head-quarters, had been intercepted by the Imperialists, and this letter forwarded to the Taoutae of Ningpo by the authorities of E-weo, at which place the rebel messenger would appear to have been discovered, arrested, and, in all probability, put to death. Deeming that a perusal of this communication might, under present circumstances, prove useful, I took the necessary steps for obtaining a copy of it, and after some delay succeeded in my wishes.

I have now the honour to inclose to your Excellency copy and translation of the letter in question, which, as I apprehended, is not wanting in interest; and may, furthermore, be fairly classed amongst the important documents on rebel affairs which have, at different periods, fallen into our hands. Of its *bond fide* genuineness I do not, for my part, entertain the least doubt: the source whence it emanates being, in itself, no bad guarantee in that respect. The Ningpo Taoutae, moreover, on being questioned on the subject, stated that he believed it to be authentic; the letter, with its attendant circumstances, bearing, in his opinion, the impress of truth and genuineness. But if any uncertainty could exist on that point, I humbly conceive that a careful perusal, and consideration of the contents of the documents would almost suffice to set all doubts and hesitations finally at rest.

A glance at the letter will at once show its chief characteristics and features to be,—straightforwardness; practical sense and method; a direct business tone; and few unnecessary words. We, further, perceive in it no allusions to any but temporal and terrestrial matters; no launching forth into Tac-ping metaphysics and ethics; no spiritual or doctrinal dogmas. The Tac-ping religious element is completely laid aside on this occasion, as actors are wont to cast off their theatrical costumes when the play is over. Besides, such element would be of no great use here, and would take up too much of the time of two confederates, who cannot very well impose upon each other by untimely allusions to heavenly rights, and the usual Tac-ping comedy. The letter accordingly confines itself to hard and prosaic business. It speaks of great and near dangers; of past mistakes, losses and reverses; of an altered policy in future, to remedy those errors, and thus regain the lost ground; of the necessity of leniency towards the quiet inhabitants of the country districts, who evidently do not appear, in all localities, to be in the humour, with their parents, wives and daughters, to be killed, crushed, disgraced and trampled upon, any longer, without, at all events, struggling and fighting for life and honour. And, finally, the letter ends by confessing the fact (a strange, but by no means an unexpected or untrue admission), that if matters go on as they are now doing, "the rebels will not find a single spot on earth for their dead bodies to rest in." All these circumstances and statements, the rebel leader informs his correspondent, are for his private ear and edification; and should not, on any account, be permitted to find an echo out of doors, fearing lest the minds of the Tac-ping soldiery might be disturbed thereby.

I have thought that your Excellency would be pleased to peruse this paper; and, if I have judged rightly, I feel no doubt also that your Excellency will agree with me in opinion that the preceding considerations give the document an undeniable stamp of authenticity and genuineness. As collateral evidence, it may be borne in mind that the statements of the rebel leader to his subordinate are palpable facts, known to most men in these and other districts. I beg only further to add, that it is on the whole a satisfactory symptom, and a source of rejoicing to all true friends of China, to perceive the tone of melancholy depression and despondency, when speaking of the Tac-ping cause and of its future prospects, which pervades the whole of this rebel production.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

FREDERICK HARVEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 94.

Rebel Letter, intercepted by the Imperial Authorities of Che-kiang Province.

[See Inclosure 3 in No. 77.]

Major-General Crofton to Mr. Hammond.—(Received January 21.)

Sir,

War Office, January 21, 1863.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to transmit to you for the information of Earl Russell, the inclosed copy of a despatch from Brigadier-General Staveley, in which he reports that an action had been fought by the Chinese forces under Colonel Burgevine, supported by a detachment of British troops, with the rebels in the neighbourhood of Shanghae, in which the latter had suffered severely.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. CROFTON.

Inclosure in No. 95.

Brigadier-General Staveley to Sir G. C. Lewis.

Sir,

Head-Quarters, Shanghae, November 21, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to state, for your information, that Her Majesty's Consul having been informed that the rebels purposed attempting the recapture of Kading and Tsingpo, Colonel Burgevine moved to the assistance of the latter place with 1,200 men, four 12-pounder howitzers, and two 5½-inch mortars; and I sent a column of 450 men, with a similar number of guns, to Nazaing, to give confidence to the Imperialist troops stockaded at that place.

Colonel Burgevine found the rebels stockaded in force eight miles north of Tsingpo; and on the 13th instant he attacked and drove them from their positions with considerable loss. In their retreat the rebels got hemmed in between two creeks, where many more were drowned, or killed by Burgevine's artillery. The Viceroy's troops, too, captured and destroyed a large number of the fugitives; the remains of the force retreated to the walled towns of Quenshai and Tai-tsan.

The statements are so conflicting that I find it difficult to come to any very definite conclusion as to the strength of the rebel force; but, from all I can learn, they numbered from 10,000 to 20,000, and 1,500 to 2,000 were killed. There is little doubt, however, that this action will have a very good effect, and probably deter the rebels from making, for the present, any further attempt upon the captured towns.

The field-force I despatched to Nazaing found the country clear of rebels, and the people returning to their farms and villages.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. STAVELEY.

No. 96

Captain Galton to Mr. Hammond.

Sir,

War Office, January 22, 1863.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to acquaint you that, in consequence of the publication of the Order in Council, dated the 9th instant, authorizing officers of Her Majesty's Army to take service under the Emperor of China, applications have been received from officers and men who are desirous of obtaining such employment.

Sir George Lewis would wish to be informed whether any agency has been established in this country, for the purpose of entering into engagements with officers who may volunteer for this service; and, if not, what answer should, in Earl Russell's opinion, be returned to applications which may be received on the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DOUGLAS GALTON

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received January 26, 1863.)

My Lord,

Peking, November 5, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose extract of a despatch from Mr. Consul Meadows, which contains an interesting account of the state of the country at New-chwang. The description he gives of the origin of these disorderly bands in the corrupt conduct of the local authorities will, I believe, be found capable of general application to China, and is the root of the anarchy and lawlessness that have culminated in the Tae-ping insurrection. I suspect that the real condition of affairs is but imperfectly known at Peking, and the accurate information with which I am furnished by Her Majesty's Consuls will prove of great value as a check upon the misconduct of these Provincial Governors, and will tend to prevent the gradual weakening of the Imperial authority and the progress of disorganization which, owing to the vast extent of China, slow communications, and the want of proper supervision of distant provinces by the Central Government, have hitherto brought about the downfall of every dynasty, whether native or foreign, and have been attended with the most cruel calamities to the industrious and respectable classes of the population.

I do not apprehend any serious risk to the foreigners resident at New-chwang, and the interests we have at stake there are so small that I have distinctly warned Mr. Meadows that he and the residents must not count on armed support; but I shall use every effort to have the extreme sentence of the law executed in the case of the individuals mentioned in Mr. Meadows' despatch, and, as the Governor has fairly broken with these ruffians, I hope to succeed.

It is most desirable to throw the responsibility of maintaining order at the ports upon the Chinese Government, for the provincial authorities are thus compelled to punish malefactors, instead of taking bribes to connive at the existence and growth of these bands, and this increased energy on the part of the Executive maintains tranquillity, and is as beneficial to the Chinese as it is to the foreigner. Apart from the Tae-ping insurrection, I see no reason to doubt that the organization of a small, tolerably equipped force, with the facility of moving it by steam to any point where it may be required, will give us all the protection we require, and relieve Her Majesty's Government from the expenditure of money and men, entailed upon it by the present system of affording naval protection at each port. To arrive at this result it is necessary that the Chinese Government should create an Imperial force, as distinguished from their present provincial militia, and that we should boldly abandon the traditions of our past intercourse, which have led the Consuls to exclude and weaken, as much as possible, the authority of the Chinese Executive, and to look upon our position at the ports as being dependent for its security on the helplessness of the Chinese Government. It is not to be supposed that so considerable an alteration will be effected without difficulty and without opposition on the part of those who have grown up under the former state of things, but I have no hesitation in recommending it, and I have no fear of the result.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure in No. 97.

Consul Meadows to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.)

Port of New-chwang, September 24, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to reply to some portions of your despatch of the 20th July, regarding the "Swordracks" generally, and to report on the proceedings against Wang-Shing.

These associated malefactors did not originate at this place, as we have seen similar scourges arise in other parts of China in irregulars raised by the authorities. The germ consisted of a body of descendants of Shantung, colonists who were some years back engaged in the lumber trade in the hills to the North-east. A body of Mahommedans having disputed with them the right to the business, a series of fights ensued in which a great portion were killed and the remnant obliged to fly. They settled in the straggling suburbs to the south of this town, where they lived partly by cultivating patches of a common that lies there, but chiefly by a lawless use of the weapons that their long feud with the Mahommedans had practised them in. But though the first examples of the gains to be derived from armed violence, and from mutual aid against the peaceable

population and the authorities, was given by these strangers, the associations of malefactors soon became quite local in character from the adhesion of numbers of the idle and dissolute of the town and the villages in its immediate neighbourhood. A large proportion of them were farm-labourers or the sons of peasant proprietors, who found it more agreeable to swagger about armed in the streets of Ying-tze, and to play the bully in the gambling houses and in the brothels, than to labour in the fields. Hence it is that now we find that in most of the villages around, one or more have their homes, and are there the terror of their peaceable neighbours. In order to get them under some degree of control, the authorities at length employed one of their leaders, Sew Fuh, as a commander of an irregular force ("braves"), raised to keep off the robber-bands from Mongolia, and the Canton pirates who threatened this port some years back. Recently another leader, Wang Seu-en-tsing, was in like manner recognized by the authorities, receiving a subordinate military title. But in his case no aid was wanted, whether against pirates or Mongol marauders; the recognition and the title were purely to bribe him into some sort of subjection. It is highly probable that Wang Shing would have forced himself into some similar position but for his present affair with the foreigners. As it was, he had no connection whatever with the Government.

With reference to your intimation that we must for the present temporize with these associated malefactors, I beg your special attention to the circumstance that the warning which I requested might be given from Peking to Sew Fuh and Wang Seu-en-tsing was of a nature of a compromise. To be told that if you do so and so you will be punished, implies that if you abstain you will be let alone. Now it was the effect of this implied promise of immunity that I had most in view when I desired the warning to be given to these two men. It is a very essential part of my plan for securing freedom from molestation in future without the presence of a British force. And I am the more anxious now again to press it on your attention, as I cannot gather from the conversations of the mandarins that any such warning has been issued from Peking; while in the very last conversation I have had with the principal Commissioner in Foreign Relations stationed at this place, he spoke as if he were himself quite in doubt as to our security during the winter, notwithstanding that Wang Shing and a few others have been seized.

In my despatch of the 25th June I related how Wang Shing had retired before the force of the local authorities into the country with a band of forty men. I am happy to report that the orders which I hoped would have reached Moukden from Peking had so reached, and that they have proved effectual. Preparations were made to send hither a body of troops under the most energetic military man they have in the province, whereupon Wang Shing's followers disbanded, and he himself slunk back alone to his house; a step to which he was, however, mainly constrained by premonitory symptoms of an attack of the cholera then raging in this region. The urging of the Commissioners in Foreign Relations, based on the orders from Peking, constrained the District Magistrate to the effort necessary to compel the district police there at length to do their duty. Wang Shing was seized in bed and brought to this town, when the Moukden force, which was already on the road, returned to that city. Han Kwei-ling, one of the two leaders of the party of six who threatened Messrs. Knight and Co.'s coolies, was also seized; the other had previously fled in consequence of having (subsequent to that affair) dangerously wounded a man at New-chwang. One of the chief assistants in the eye-scooping case was also arrested; but all the others engaged in that act, and the murder of the brothers Tang, are at large. I may at once state that they are now rendering the roads all around insecure by their robberies. Countrymen going merely a couple of miles from one village to another carry spears; and an unarmed wayfarer is now become quite exceptional.

Wang Shing has undergone a series of examinations on the three charges,—first, of plotting the assassination of the English Consul; secondly, of gouging the young man Chang; and thirdly, of causing his followers to kill the brothers Tang.

He denied the first and third charges and admitted the second, but pleaded that the gouging was in revenge of the death of his elder brother by the act of the sufferer's father; and I presently got a letter from the mandarins, from which, and from a conversation I had with them in a body, I saw that the solicitations of Wang Shing's friends and the bribes offered—a large one had been offered myself—had in a great measure effaced the effect of the Peking orders, and that they wished to let him off with one or two years' banishment.

I was compelled to speak very plainly to them, which cost me the less as, though I was quite prepared to find them lenient in relation to any plot against myself, it was impossible not to feel disgust at their disregard of the plainest requirements of justice and the welfare of their own people in the other cases.

They requested me to furnish them with the name of my informant as to the plot

against myself. I replied by referring to the corruption of the yamuns of the province from high to low, as established by the unvarying testimony of Chinese of all classes with whom I had discussed the state of the country during the past fifteen months, and by the testimony of other foreigners, who had resided in it from five to twenty years past. Notorious malefactors were let off on payment of bribes, while those who sought for justice against them were first exposed to hardships in the yamuns, and, when freed from them, to the vengeance of the ruffians whom they had accused. The yamuns had become the terror of the good and the contempt and the safeguard of the bad. The peaceable and law-abiding feared the mandarins but did not respect them, and the armed law-breakers did not respect them and did not fear them.

I knew, I said, when I brought the charge against Wang Shing that I should not be able to produce witnesses; but it did not follow that because the corruptions of the yamuns had reached such a pitch, therefore I should sit inactive under the threats of assassination of the ruffians whom that corruption had fostered. Hence I brought my charge, leaving it to them to use or not the means which were at their command, but not at mine, to get at proofs in such cases.

With reference to the tone they assumed of acquiescence in the correctness of Wang Shing's denial of having ordered the killing of the brothers Tang, I said that it was lucky that, in the gouging affair, Wang Shing had not cut out the young man's tongue also; for in that case he might have denied the crime, and then again there would have been no proof. As it was, there was the lad himself without his eyes and with his tongue, and there was no avoiding of the most direct evidence.

One of Wang Shing's chief employments was to go about the country with a gambling establishment, which he set up in the villages and small towns around at festival times. Being so established at Laou-peen, while theatricals were going on there, one of his followers provoked a quarrel with one of the Tangs in front of the theatre. A fight ensued, which was stopped by the other spectators; but the man Tang was so exasperated that he, with his brother and some of his neighbours in the village, followed his assailant to Wang Shing's gambling place to demand redress. Wang Shing and his armed followers, some ten to fifteen in number, thereupon came out; when his followers, by his order and in his presence, killed the two Tangs by matchlock-shots, sword-cuts, and spear-thrusts. All this, besides being in matter of public notoriety for months, had been detailed to me by one of the best informed landed proprietors and merchants of the place—a man who is likely to assume a position at this town similar to that of Howqua at Canton, and Tang Ke-tang at Shanghai.

Finding me fully informed of the actual occurrences, and quite indisposed to accept their subterfuges, the mandarins left, and subsequently sent me another letter, stating that they had obtained evidence respecting Wang Shing's share in the death of the two Tangs more in accordance with the common report. They also discovered that Han Kwei-ling had been one of the chief actors in that deed.

On the 29th August these men were taken from this place to Hai-ching, by the magistrate of that district; to prevent a threatened rescue they were escorted by a guard of about 200 men. A portion of these were in charge of five small pieces of artillery mounted on carts and accompanied by ammunition carts, fifty were horsemen, and the rest matchlock-men on foot.

October 15, 1862.

Soon after drafting the above, the Commissioner in Foreign Relations, Yuh, told me that some "Swordracks" having (since Wang Shing's dispatch to Hae-ching) committed an outrage in Ying-tze, a party of the police went to seize them, but that they had successfully resisted, dangerously wounding one of the police in the fight. He also informed me that he and the other mandarins had at length resolved to represent at Moukden and Peking the necessity for some modification of the Imperial codes, such as would relieve the police, and the territorial authorities under whose orders they acted, from their present responsibilities in case they are driven to kill accused persons resisting arrests; and such further modifications as would, after arrests are made, enable the authorities to inflict prompt and heavier punishments on habitual or on associated malefactors. I had been repeatedly pressing on their attention the necessity for modifications to meet the present totally altered circumstances; and I trust that now they have mustered up energy enough to set about the work, you will be pleased to lend their efforts your powerful support.

The event appears to have proved that when these associated ruffians know that the provincial authorities are ready to support the district authorities, the power at the command of the latter suffices. It seems also to have proved that the Imperial Government has as yet power to make the Manchoo Governor move effectually in a work for which (there is reason to believe) he can have had no liking—the protection of foreigners

generally and of myself in particular. The district authorities might again plead inability without my feeling quite sure that they were guilty of untruth; for this affair of Wang Shing has cost them an immense effort and no little expense. They are plainly surprised at their own success, speaking of it with a feeling of relief as well as triumph. But for the Imperial Government there will be no excuse whatever if British subjects at Ying-tze should, during the approaching winter, suffer in person or property from the associated ruffians of the place. The Peking Government have the power to compel the Manchoo Governor to the requisite exercise of his authority and his means, and they can free the district authorities from the restraints by which they are now so seriously hampered. I, therefore, respectfully submit that, as one means of preventing trouble, the Imperial Government should, in advance, be distinctly held responsible for all aggressions on British subjects, whether as to life or as to property.

In my despatch of the 25th June, I inclosed copy of a note of ———, giving his opinion of the dangers that menace us, and the unreliability of the Chinese officers and soldiers. I at the same time inclosed a copy of my letter to the authorities on Wang Shing's plot. I therein informed them, for the benefit of the leaders of the banded ruffians, that if any more armed men came to the settlement to commit aggressions, I should immediately fire on them, whatever their numbers might be. I now inclose a copy of my second letter to the authorities on Wang Shing and his fellows, wherein I openly press for his punishment, and dwell on his crimes against his own countrymen as well as his designs against myself. I remain fully convinced that this position of *de haut en bas* defiance is the right one to maintain with regard to these people. It leaves them no middle choice between abstaining from every personal annoyance on the one hand and a massacre on the other. It was the position I took up immediately after Mr. Davenport's affair, and it has answered thoroughly. During the fifteen months that have since elapsed none of the British residents have been subjected to any personal assault. Certain throwing of bricks, &c., at the foreigners' horses was speedily dropped: to myself it never occurred at all. For a long time back, in going through the streets, I have never once heard the abusive term "kwei tzu," or "devil;" and though the people still do use it conversations among themselves, I believe they are, nevertheless, gradually getting accustomed to the term "wae kwo jin," or "foreigners." The demeanour of the general population to us directly is deferential, with more or less of civility or cordiality when spoken to; and I have the satisfaction to report that the beneficial effect, for all peaceable people, of the action of the British authorities against Wang Shing and the "Swordracks" generally has now, at length, become a subject of common remark in Ying-tze. Some of the ruffians still haunt the brothels, it appears; but in the streets there is an immunity from assault and outrage that has not been enjoyed for some years past.

That about a fortnight ago attempts at extortion were still being made elsewhere than in brothels, is proved by the following case, which, as it concerns the Consulate, I here detail by way of completing my report on our position.

About the time mentioned, Tso, one of the Consulate messengers, whose home is in a village about two miles from the Consulate, informed me that a man named Shih Ching-kwan, the elder of four brothers, three of whom are noted "Swordracks," and who live in the same neighbourhood, accosted him as he was walking home, and requested the loan of 50 teaou (about 5 taels). In the discussion that followed, the messenger pleaded inability to lend; while the other argued that as he had a place with the "devils," he must have spare cash; and, on the messenger continuing to decline, reproached him with being a "kwei tsze noo tsae," a slave of the "devils;" remarked on the circumstance that I, in particular, had been getting the mandarins to seize his comrades; and wound up by an intimation that, if money were not forthcoming, he would cut Tso down some day when he met him outside of the Consulate compound. As this ruffian had, within the last few months, severely wounded, on two separate occasions, two of the neighbouring villagers who had stood out against his demands, Tso was much alarmed; but was still more alarmed at the idea of appearing openly before the District Magistrate as the accuser of Shih Ching-kwan.

It was evident, supposing Tso's story to be correct, that he was selected to be a victim, chiefly on account of his connection with this Consulate. It was therefore necessary to the efficiency of the establishment to support him; I, therefore, took an opportunity of the Magistrate's paying me a visit, to make Tso repeat the story before him, and undergo a private cross-questioning; I first warning the Magistrate that he must judge of the truth of the accusation himself, it being possible that not Tso himself, but some third person, had been threatened, who was endeavouring in this way to make use of the Consulate. After a pretty close examination, the Magistrate evidently did give credence to Tso (who

answered all questions with readiness and consistency), and promised that Shih Ching-kwan should be dealt with on the ground of some one of his past outrages. Some days after that, Chang, one of the Commissioners in Foreign Relations, came down from Moukden, and, in his arrival-call, informed me that Shih Ching-kwan had been seized. He added, "As soon as the Magistrate mentioned him, I told him that I had, when myself magistrate of this district, given that man 1,000 blows ("yih tsun pau tze"), and that if he would look into the magistracy archives he would find the record of the case." I have not since heard anything more of the matter. I judge, however, that the authorities will not soon let Shih free again.

No. 98.

Mr. Hammond to Captain Galton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 27, 1863.

I HAVE laid before Earl Russell your letter of the 22nd instant, requesting to be informed whether any agency has been established in this country for engaging officers of Her Majesty's army who may wish to enter the service of the Emperor of China, under the Order in Council of the 9th instant.

I am to state to you, in reply, for the information of Secretary Sir G. C. Lewis, that Lord Russell is not aware of any agency of this description other than that of Mr. Lay and Captain Osborn; but that the Order in Council of the 9th instant was not prepared in communication with that agency, and that his Lordship believes that Mr. Lay and Captain Osborn are occupied exclusively in engaging officers and men for service in the Chinese fleet.

The Order in Council of the 9th instant was issued by Her Majesty's Government to provide for the contingency of the Chinese Government desiring to avail itself of the services of British officers in drilling, organizing, and rendering efficient a sufficient body of Chinese troops for the purpose of putting down the rebellion in China.

It appeared doubtful whether British officers could properly enter the service the Emperor of China under the restricted Order in Council of the 30th of August last, and the Order of the 9th instant was accordingly issued to remove those doubts. But Lord Russell is not aware that the Chinese Government has established any agency in this country for the purpose of engaging military officers to serve in the Chinese army; neither have Her Majesty's Government any intention of interfering any further in the matter than by making known Her Majesty's permission, as signified in the Order in Council, for British military officers taking service under the Emperor of China.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 99.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received February 12.)

My Lord,

Peking, December 12, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a memorandum, drawn up by Mr. Wade (who has watched the progress of the Tae-pings more closely than any other person), on the letter of Colonel Sykes to Viscount Palmerston, forwarded in your Lordship's despatch of the 8th of August. The present disturbed condition of China may be traced, in the main, to three causes:—

1. A dense population pressing upon the means of subsistence so closely that the partial failure of crops, or a change in the course of trade, reduces masses of the people to a state of starvation, and drives them to support life by pillage. I may instance the disorder in Shantung, which is due in great measure to the numbers of men thrown out of employment by the stoppage of the great canal.

2. A gradual deterioration of the military force, consequent on a long peace; the loss of the military qualities, which enabled the Tartars, by affording protection against anarchy and plunder to the industrious classes, to govern the country with their assent, not having been compensated by any improvement in equipment or discipline, or by taking advantage of the rivers and canals which intersect China,

and afford facilities for concentrating rapidly the forces of Government on disturbed districts.

3. The influence of Chinese teaching and maxims on the Government; the reliance on moral teaching, as a sufficient check on the conduct of the rulers, and as a sufficient guarantee for the obedience of the people. The weakness of the Government is due, in fact, to its having become Chinese instead of Tartar, to its having neglected the military art, and despised the profession of arms: and its danger arises from its inability, without a change of its military system, to afford to the industrious and acquisitive Chinese, protection against the lawless and dangerous classes. Had the Tae-ping leaders conciliated the respectable classes, protected property, and developed trade, after having seized Nanking and the neighbouring provinces, the Government was so badly organised for resistance, and the population so indifferent to anything but their material interests, that the insurgents would have found little difficulty in gradually extending their rule over the south of China. But they lost this great opportunity: the extravagant pretensions of their Chief alienated the educated classes, who have great influence over the minds of the population, while the co-operation of the needy and desperate of every district they approached, and the disregard shown by them to life and property, secured the adhesion of the industrious to the Government, in spite of its defects. For the oppression of local officials, supported by little force, and, therefore, unable to push it beyond the limits imposed by custom to exaction, is a very different thing from that exercised by a horde of armed brigands, whose objects are plunder and license.

It is impossible to obtain any accurate information as to the numbers brought by the Tae-pings into the field, for they, as well as the Government, exaggerate enormously their forces for the purpose of inspiring terror, and their ranks are swollen by crowds of hangers-on who follow for the purpose of plundering places which fall into their hands.

The common Chinese hyperbole used in describing a considerable number is "several tens of thousands," but it would be a serious error to translate it by any definite number. Only a small proportion are tolerably armed, but they have a nucleus of men who for several years have made war their trade, and the leaders show a degree of courage in heading their men which it would be well if the Imperialists would imitate.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure in No. 99.

Memorandum on the Present Extent of the Tae-ping Rebellion.

I HAVE perused copy of a letter addressed by Colonel Sykes to Lord Palmerston on the 29th July, 1862.

Colonel Sykes states that "including the Shantung (in the north) and the Tu Fei rebels (in the south and west), two-thirds of China are withdrawn from Tartar rule." He appends to his letter a Table purporting to show the extent of country occupied by the Tae-ping rebels in Kiang-su, Ngan-hwui, and Cheh-kiang; also in Kwang-si, Sz'-chuen, and Honan. The three first-named provinces he believes to be entirely in the possession of the Tae-pings, the three last partly to belong to them.

In the sense in which Colonel Sykes employs the terms "occupation" or "possession," the Tae-pings have never occupied or possessed more than certain portions of Huh-peh, Ngan-hwui, Kiang-su and Cheh-kiang, and they never, at the time of their greatest strength, occupied simultaneously those portions, although at different periods they have in their loose way studded them with garrisons, as centres from which they might carry on the predatory warfare which has distinguished their career. They are neither more nor less than banditti such as have been the scourge of China more than once under past dynasties and more than once under the present. They did not succeed in taking the capital of Kwang-si, which province they ravaged for two or three years before their great movement in 1852 and 1853. They equally failed to take the provincial capital of Hu-nan. They took the capital of Hu-peh only to lose it again; they retook it and lost it a second and a third time; but in 1856 and 1857 the Government reconquered the whole of

the province, and has retained possession of it ever since, with the exception of one city near the east border, which was again lost a year ago, but immediately recovered.

In the next province, Ngan-hwui, they held their ground from 1853 until this year, but nearly the whole of it was recovered by the Government last summer. The capital, Ngan-ching, an important post on the river, the city of Wu-hu, and the equally important river-pass called the East and West Pillar Hills, were retaken by the combined forces of Tseng Kwo-fan (who has organized an army of men from his own Province of Hu-nan) and Kwan Wen, Governor-General of Hu-kwang. This force has cleared both banks of the river up to the western walls of Nanking, before which Tseng Kwo-fan's brother is now in position with an increasing force of Hu-nan men.

Among the Departments which the rebels evacuated as the above force approached, is Hwui-chow-foo, a most important tea country, from which produce has been unable to reach the river at Wu-hu and other places for the last nine years in rebel possession. In Cheh-kiang and Kiang-su, the principal cities along the Grand Canal are at present in the hands of the Tae-pings. It is their radiation from these centres, especially from Soo-chow, that has forced the fact of their existence more directly upon the mercantile community resident at Shanghae, than in the earlier years of the insurrection. On the other hand, they have lost, since the winter of 1861-62, all the ground they held south of the river and west of Nanking, over a considerable portion of which their tenure had been sufficiently prolonged to authorize the use of the term "possession." That their abandonment of Ngan-hwui and West Kiang-su was due solely to the prowess of the Imperial forces I do not allege; but it is plain to me that the Cantonese, who are the real springs of the existing system of brigandage, were not prepared for the concentration I have before spoken of, particularly as Sangkolinsin also had entered Ngan-hwui on the north, and Shingpau was moving in the north-west of the same province. Their raid on Cheh-kiang, which followed the evacuation of Ngan-hwui, was temporarily a severe blow to the Government, but in less than four months the whole valley of the Tsien-tang, that is, the whole south of Cheh-kiang, was again re-occupied by the Government. Nothing can mark more completely the character of the movement than these late proceedings. It is pure brigandage without any political vitality. It is almost certain that the rebels have abandoned Cha-pu, unable to make any use of a coast-port, though neither there nor at Wan-chow, also abandoned by them, has the Government been beholden to foreign assistance.

In answer to the assertion of Colonel Sykes that Kiang-su, Ngan-hwui, and Cheh-kiang have passed from Tartar rule, it should be stated that these three provinces have never been at the same moment in Tae-ping possession in any sense, and that at the present time it is much to be doubted whether there be any Tae-pings in the said provinces except in a tract of country of irregular breadth, extending from Nanking to Hang-chow. It should not be forgotten that though in possession of a very considerable river-fleet up to 1857 and 1858, the Tae-pings have not had since that time a single junk upon the river. Their whole fleet was destroyed by Chang Kwo-liang.

As regards Kwang-si, Sz'-chuen, and Honan, Kwang-si has never been entirely in the hands of the Tae-pings, though that province is now, as it was before the name "Tae-ping" was heard of, in great disorder, for it has troublesome neighbours. It is evident, however, from the Gazettes—which, for some reason only intelligible to a Chinese, always publish the disasters of Government—that the communications are as open as usual.

In Sz'-chuen there are no Tae-pings. The ex-Taeping leader Shi Ta-kai broke with Hung Siu-tsuen when the latter effected the massacre of Yang, known as the Eastern King and *soi-disant* representative of the Third Person of the Trinity, with some 20,000 of his adherents, in Nanking. From the mountains of Kwei-chow he makes incursions into Sz'-chuen, which was, until lately, further harassed by two or more gangs of banditti, now driven into Shen-si. The west of Sz'-chuen is inhabited by people who are hardly Chinese.

In Honan there is much trouble from the Nien Fei, a local banditti of historical celebrity, who are as restless as our own borderers were in ancient times. But they are not spoken of as a political body, either by the Government or by the people. This designation is confined to the Tae-ping banditti, of whom it is invariably said, by every Chinese I have spoken to on the subject, that "it is impossible they should ever found a dynasty." Reference to Chinese history will show that no bandit of mark has ever had a certain following at his back without styling himself

a Wang, King or Prince ; and leaders of banditti have achieved this prominence not only under former dynasties, but more than once since the present family ascended the Throne.

I have omitted to observe that the designation "Tu Fei," supposed by Colonel Sykes to belong to some special body, is applied to any highway robbers or the like. Turpin was a "Tu Fei."

(Signed) THOMAS F. WADE.

No. 100.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received February 14.)

Sir, *Admiralty, February 12, 1863.*
I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Earl Russell, extracts from a letter of the 31st December last, from the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's ships and vessels in China, Rear-Admiral Kuper, reporting the arrival of the Russian Rear-Admiral Popoff at Hong Kong, and the satisfactory state of affairs in the north of China.

I am, &c.
(Signed) C. PAGET

Inclosure in No. 100.

Rear-Admiral Kuper to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.) *"Euryalus," Hong Kong, December 31, 1862.*

THE Russian Rear-Admiral Popoff arrived at this anchorage on the 18th instant in the screw-corvette "Bogatyr," from Japan and Shanghae, and intends to sail shortly for Saigon and Singapore. The Russian gun-vessel "Haydamak" proceeds to-morrow for Manilla.

Satisfactory reports continue to be received of the state of affairs in the north of China. The rebels have not been heard of within the limits assigned them round Shanghae, and Captain Dew reports that there are none within seventy miles of Ningpo, and that their cause is on the wane in that district.

Other reports state that the rebels have a very large force at Nanking, and also at Soo-chow.

No. 101.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received February 16, 1863.)

(Extract.) *Peking, November 22, 1862.*

I HAVE entered at some length, in the despatch herewith inclosed to Admiral Kuper, on the rights of the Chinese Government with respect to its armed cruisers, and to vessels trading under foreign flags at places not open by Treaty.

The effect on our relations produced by the presence of a Minister at Peking is, as yet, but imperfectly understood, except by those upon whose notice, owing to their position at Peking, it is forced by events which are constantly occurring on the coast. It is as inconsistent with many of our former modes of proceeding in China as it is with the old traditions of the Chinese Empire on foreign intercourse. In as far as residence and direct communication with the Imperial Government are effectual in inducing the Chinese to accept and act upon the principles of international law prevalent in Europe, in so far will it act in their favour, by rendering it impossible for us, without the most glaring inconsistency, to pursue certain modes of obtaining redress which were formerly due to and justified by the fact that we had no appeal to the Imperial Government against the abuses of its subordinate officers. Though the Government had signed Treaties, it had not, in practice, recognized its responsibility for the acts of its agents, and it allowed them to violate Treaty rights, leaving it to them to get out of the consequences as best they could.

My efforts are directed to make the Imperial Government acknowledge this responsibility; and the most effectual argument is to demonstrate that, by exercising its authority to redress and prevent abuses, China will be no longer exposed to the acts of violence which were the result of the want of representation at the Central Government. It is evident, therefore, that a resort to violent measures, on the simple complaint of the aggrieved party, destroys entirely the force of my arguments, and diminishes the hope of reconciling the Chinese Government to this innovation by a sense of the advantages to which it leads. They stultify my language, in the eyes of this Government, with insincerity, and weaken that moral influence which, by judicious management, I trust to substitute in the room of force, as the engine of progress and improvement in China.

Your Lordship will easily see that the demands for redress, arising out of the acts of the useless and semi-piratical vessels which are employed by this Government, will be a material assistance to me in urging this Government to substitute a small and efficient steam flotilla for these irregular levies. This is the only remedy for the disorganization of the sea-board, as disciplined troops are the only remedy for the anarchy that exists in the interior. Her Majesty's navy during the last twenty years have destroyed piratical vessels by hundreds on the coast, not only without eradicating but even without apparently diminishing the evil, and the occasional destruction of a piratical cruizer will be as ineffectual to prevent these abuses so long as the Chinese Government continues to raise its naval force from that description of vessels.

The principles I have ventured to lay down in my despatch to the Admiral are so different from those which have been followed hitherto in such matters, that I request your Lordship to pronounce upon their soundness, and if they meet with your approval to move the Lords of the Admiralty to recommend that they be observed by Her Majesty's squadron in these seas.

The example of England on these points will have a great effect on the conduct observed by the naval forces of other Powers.

Inclosure in No. 101.

Mr. Bruce to Rear-Admiral Kuper.

(Extract.)

Peking, November 22, 1862.

IT is perfectly true that the Chinese, in the absence of any properly organized naval force, are compelled to hire the services of Cantonese vessels, which are little better than pirates, and which no doubt abuse their power for purposes of extortion, as the "braves" do by land, and as undisciplined men, with arms in their hands, are in the habit of doing everywhere; but as long as these vessels are in the service of the Government they must not be treated as pirates, the Chinese Government being responsible for their acts, and being entitled to claim for them the respect due to vessels of the State, whether they abuse their authority or not. I think this responsibility may be made to fall so heavily on the Government as to compel it to be more cautious in its selection of armed vessels, and to adopt a system which will greatly conduce to order on the coast, by substituting vessels commanded by responsible officers of the State for these hired corsairs, who are in fact pirates armed with Government authority; whereas, if instead of complaining to the Government and demanding redress for their abusive acts, we take the law into our own hands, we may destroy, indeed, the vessels pointed out as the offenders, but we shall do nothing towards the permanent eradication of the evil.

While the Imperial Government refused to recognize foreign Powers, and to admit an appeal to its sovereign authority against the acts of its officers, the only course open was to exact redress by the strong hand for breaches of Treaty against the immediate offenders. The result has been that the foreign communities have learned not only to despise all Chinese authority, but have come to consider that their security depends on the weakness of the Chinese Executive. The object, therefore, has been to paralyse as much as possible its action, and to rely on the support of Her Majesty's forces, naval and military, for protection against the internal anarchy and disorder which this course of policy has tended powerfully to foment. The policy of Her Majesty's Government is now modified by the recognition on the part of the Imperial Government of its duties towards foreigners, implied by the constitution of a Foreign Board at Peking in communication with the Representatives of the foreign Treaty Powers. With a view to the permanent improvement of our position in China, and to the permanent security of our vast interests here, the object to be arrived at is the re-organization of the Executive of the Chinese, simultaneously with its recognition of our rights, so that it may be able to tranquillize the

country, by making itself respected, and be able to give us that protection which by Treaty it is bound to give to us in the exercise of our Treaty rights. We must protest against the abuses its agents may commit; we must insist with pertinacity in claiming redress when it is due; we must labour for its reformation: but we must at the same time recognize its authority, even when that authority is abused.

I can assure you, Sir, that my position here makes me fully alive to the difficulty of the task, and to the clamour which will pursue those who attempt to substitute the slow process of discussion and remonstrance for the more speedy and effectual method of exacting reparation in all cases by force. But our future position in China is involved in the success of the experiment, and as I do not despair of success, provided the Government is able to hold its own against the Tae-ping insurgents, I am not prepared to recommend its abandonment.

No. 102.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received February 16, 1863.)

(Extract.)

Peking, November 22, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a correspondence with the Prince of Kung, and of certain Regulations for the conduct of trade on the Yang-tze River, adopted in consequence of the Chinese Government having decided on opening Custom-houses at Kiu-kiang and Hankow. This measure has been urged upon the Prince by the authorities of the River provinces as being essential to enable them to meet the war expenditure in the centre of China, and I am in hopes that its adoption will be found, as Mr. Gingell anticipates, to smooth our difficulties at the important mart of Hankow by the revenue it will produce, and by the facilities it will give for working the clauses of the Treaty which entitle Her Majesty's subjects to take out passports for travelling, and transit-duty certificates. Hitherto the ill-will of the Governor-General Kwan, who resented the payment of the Customs duties at Shanghai instead of Hankow, and the want of an efficient establishment, have rendered these clauses inoperative.

I may observe, though the Prince in his despatch says that no alteration can be made with reference to salt, that the provincial authorities are allowed to make such arrangements with respect to it as they think fit, and that permits are being issued to take salt up to Kiu-kiang and Hankow, which will, I trust, render less profitable the contraband trade carried on in that article.

The considerations which led to the notification by Sir James Hope and Sir Harry Parkes of the Yang-tze River being opened throughout its whole course (although the Prince had not been asked to consent to the proposal, and Sieh, the Superintendent of Trade at Shanghai, protested against it), were based on the assumptions that the Chinese Government could not prevent trading along the river banks, and that if the Customs duties were paid its revenue would not suffer. The Chinese Government, however, asserts that it is able to prevent smuggling, and that the provincial revenue which is expended in maintaining the Imperial forces in the centre of China does suffer materially from the evasion, under the present system, of the dues locally payable. In the absence of statistics it is difficult to disprove the latter assertion; but as the appearance of foreign vessels on the river has not interfered with any native shipping interest, and as the provincial authorities are in great straits for funds, and would not willingly deprive themselves of any source of revenue, I do not feel justified in treating it as without foundation.

I regret that the river was declared open in spite of the objections of Sieh, and that the question was not referred to Peking in the first instance. This step has led to extravagant expectations, and has promoted the formation of speculative companies for the employment of steamers on the river, in excess, I fear, of any demand for their services.

In order to prevent the disappointment which a return to the terms of my proposal would be sure to produce, I spared no effort last year to induce the Imperial Government to assent to the extension given to it in the Notification, and it was not until after months of fruitless discussion that I agreed to the Regulations published in December of 1861, restricting trade to the two ports which, at my request, the Prince had opened to trade. It was out of my power to attempt to carry this point by anything in the nature of menace or pressure, considering the terms in which my own proposal had been couched, and the fact that the Treaty itself had only provided for the opening of a limited number of ports on the river, on the restoration of tranquillity; for such a course would have been incon-

sistent with fair dealing, and would have been in contradiction with the language I have invariably held as to the binding nature of engagements entered into by both Contracting Parties; and it is certainly very unjust to the Chinese Government that, instead of an acknowledgment of the readiness with which it agreed to a proposal which by Treaty we were not entitled to make, its action should be so misrepresented as to make it appear that it is now withdrawing a privilege to which it never agreed, and which was assumed without its assent to it having been even asked.

In discussing the proposed Regulations I endeavoured to ascertain at what other points on the river, if any, trade had sprung up; I have not obtained information that leads me to believe that trade to any extent has been carried on at other ports than those of Kiu-kiang and Hankow. With the exception of a petty contraband trade in salt, principally carried on by lorchas, and which has led to disorders, I have only heard of three places, all in the province of Nan-hwuy, to which, as the natural outlets of the teas produced in the district of Hwui-chau-fu, it appeared to me that it might be convenient to have access, so that teas might be shipped direct thence to Shanghai. I consequently embodied a proposal to that effect in the inclosed despatch. Your Lordship will see that I do not propose to open these ports to trade generally, as I know that such a proposition would not be favourably entertained, and that I ask for the privilege on behalf of steamers only. I have confined it to this class of vessels, on account of the necessity that exists, if vessels are allowed to touch at a place where no Consular authority is established, to have some guarantee for the maintenance of order by their crews, and such a guarantee is provided in the case of steamers by the respectability of the owners and commanders. Should the Chinese Government agree to my proposal, and the effect be to drive the lorchas out of the river, I shall not regret it; for the commercial benefit to be derived from their participation in the river trade is a very meagre compensation for the complications constantly produced by their unscrupulous proceedings.

I did not succeed in obtaining an unconditional assent to my proposal, as the Prince's reply shows. The hopes of progress in obtaining the further opening of such ports on the Yang-tze River as may be likely to prove useful to foreign commerce rest mainly on producing a conviction on the mind of Chinese Statesmen that we respect as sacred the limits prescribed by Conventions to our rights; that where we ask for further privileges we ask for them as matters not of right but of favour; and that we have no wish to take advantage of the ignorance of the Government and surprise it into concessions which may prove prejudicial to its interests.

I do not hope for permanent and satisfactory results from measures even of a progressive character, if extorted by force from the temporary weakness of the Government. The troubled state of China gives us the opportunity of showing unequivocal marks of a friendly disposition, and to the effect produced by such exhibitions, together with a widening intercourse with the leading Chinese, I trust for a gradual and sure advance.

As to the Regulations themselves they are of a provisional character and admit of modification should they be found to work with unnecessary harshness. I had hoped for Mr. Consul Medhurst's assistance in discussing their details, but the pressure of his Consular duties at Shanghai prevented his coming to Peking according to my invitation. I cannot dispute the right of the Chinese Government to issue such Regulations as it may think required for its protection, particularly in the existing condition of the Yang-tze River; and your Lordship will observe that, in the Notification publishing them as binding on Her Majesty's subjects, I have avoided as much as possible any language that might make me responsible for them. It is for China to regulate trade on its inner waters; the foreigner's right of objecting is confined to breaches of Treaty, and his right of remonstrance to cases in which experience may show these Regulations to be unnecessarily oppressive to trade.

I have had the benefit of the most frank and unrestricted communication with Mr. Burlingame, the Minister of the United States, on this question, which I was anxious to obtain on account of the large American interests involved in the river trade. He has notified to American citizens his acceptance of these Regulations, and he is actively supporting the proposal I have made for the partial opening of the three ports in the Province of Nan-hwuy. It is very desirable that we should act together in these commercial matters, in which our interests are identical, and I am happy to state that in the course of policy to be adopted in furtherance of these interests, as well as in his general views of the condition of China and its improvement, his opinions coincide entirely with my own.

Inclosure 1 in No. 102.

The Prince of Kung to Mr. Bruce.

(Translation.)

Peking, July 14, 1862.

THE Prince of Kung, &c., makes a communication.

On the 2nd of the 2nd moon (March), the Prince wrote to the British Minister to communicate to him the request of Kwan, Governor-General of Hu Kwang, that certain alterations might be made in the provisional rules (regulating trade on the Yang-tze), as they were productive of inconvenience so serious as to render them impracticable.

His Excellency replied that Mr. Hart, Inspector-General of Customs, was well versed in these questions; that a change have been (or being about to be) made at Hankow, by which the collection of export duties would be authorized at that port, foreign vessels would be enabled to clear out direct, without being obliged to tranship cargo at Shanghai; that this arrangement would be of advantage to trade, but that the change would naturally render necessary certain modifications of the provisional rules, which it would be desirable should be well considered before they were brought into operation, in order to the avoidance of complications at a future date.

On the 11th of the 5th moon (June), the Prince received another despatch from the British Minister, in which his Excellency stated that Mr. Gingell, Consul at Hankow, had submitted to him the desirability of revising that part of the Regulations which had made all duties payable at Shanghai, the mercantile community being in favour of the revision, and that his Excellency saw no objection to the proposed changes, but would require, should they be adopted, that two-tenths should be deducted quarterly from the sum collected, to be carried to the amount of the indemnity, as by Treaty required at the other open ports.

It being difficult for the Prince to pronounce whether, if export duties were collected on native produce at Hankow, there would or would not be any inconvenient consequences, his Highness wrote at once to Inspector-General Hart to instruct him to report as soon as his propositions were in formal shape, in order that his Highness might consider them, and take the necessary action in concert with the British Minister.

To this effect his Highness replied, in a communication addressed to his Excellency on the 15th of the 5th moon.

His Highness is now in receipt of a de-patch from his Excellency Kwan, acquainting him that Inspector-General Hart had arrived at Hankow on the 21st of the 5th moon, and had, on the following day, crossed the river to the provincial city, and repaired to his (the Governor-General's) yamun. They conversed together, and the Governor-General found, from the questions he put, that Mr. Hart was thoroughly acquainted with all Customs questions. He (Mr. Hart) continued for several days discussing the conditions of a collection at Hankow with the Taoutae Chêng, Superintendent of the Kiang-han Customs, and after a thorough consideration of all points they had agreed on a revised Code of Regulations for river trade, and a set of Rules for the collection of tariff duties and transit dues at the Kiang-hai Kwan. These are very complete and satisfactory; and Mr. Gingell having also stated that there was no objection to them, his Excellency proposed making a trial of the collection of tariff and other dues under the new Regulations, commencing at the Kiang-han Customs on the 1st of the 7th moon.

Mr. Hart had also been arranging a set of Rules for the collection of the duties at Kiu-kiang, on the model of those drawn up for the Kiang-han Customs. A copy of these his Excellency Kwan inclosed, with a request that his Highness would consider them with the several foreign Ministers resident at Peking, and reply with such speed as might enable the Hu-peh authorities to commence collecting the duties under the conditions the new Regulations prescribe.

The Prince assumes that these Rules for the collection of duties on the river trade having been determined on after due consideration by his Excellency Kwan, the Inspector-General Hart, and Mr. Consul Gingell, cannot but be most complete, and perfectly worthy of adoption.

It is accordingly the duty of His Highness to inclose to the British Minister copy of the Regulations for the collection of duties by the Kiang-han Customs, also copy of those affecting the Customs at Kiu-kiang.

As it is proposed that the Kiang-han Customs should begin to make trial of the revised Regulations on the 1st of the 7th moon, and as it would not only occasion a loss to revenue were that day to be passed, but would prevent the native and foreign merchant from participating alike in the advantages (of the new system) as soon as they might, which would, indeed, be a pity, the Prince assumes that Mr. Consul Gingell will have

acquainted the British Minister (with the proposed Regulations), and the Prince hopes that his Excellency will reply to His Highness with such speed as will put it in the power of His Highness to send instructions that may enable the Governor-General to commence (under the new system) by the day he names.

Custom-houses being thus established at Hankow and Kiu-kiang, two-tenths of the duties collected at those ports will be handed quarterly to the Consuls as at the ports open on the seaboard.

A necessary communication addressed to his Excellency the Honourable Mr. Bruce, &c. Tung Chih, 1st year, 6th moon, 18th day (July 1862).

Inclosure 2 in No. 102.

The Prince of Kung to Mr. Bruce.

(Translation.)

Peking, October 11, 1862.

THE Prince of Kung, &c., makes a communication.

It has been provided by Article X of the Treaty that British merchant-ships should be authorized to trade upon the Great River, but that the upper and lower valleys being disturbed by outlaws, no port should, for the present, be opened to trade, with the exception of Chin-kiang, which should be opened in a year from the signing of the Treaty. When peace was restored trade should be allowed at ports, not exceeding three in number, which should then be selected as far as Hankow, &c.

The British Minister having subsequently moved the Prince to open Kiu-kiang and Hankow without waiting (for the suppression of the rebellion), His Highness replied, assenting to the request of his Excellency, and thereupon there were drawn up by Mr. Parkes, individually, ten Articles for the regulation of trade on the river. The seventh of these Articles would have authorized merchants to land and ship cargo at any point they pleased between Chin-kiang and Hankow; but against this his Excellency Sieh, Imperial Commissioner at Shanghae, at once protested, alleging this freedom to land and ship at all points would be productive of abuses.

The Prince had consequently further communication on the subject with the British Minister in the autumn, and there were then agreed to twelve Regulations, the seventh of which being altered, the landing and shipping of cargo was (declared to be) allowed only at Kiu-kiang and Hankow, and all duties and tonnage dues were made payable at Shanghae.

This payment of all dues at Shanghae was presently complained of by his Excellency Kwan, Governor-General of Hu Kwang, who represented to the Throne that the arrangement injuriously affected the river revenue, and that the war taxes were daily falling off; his Excellency consequently prayed a revision of the Regulations.

On this the Prince instructed Mr. Hart, Inspector-General of Customs, to go to Hu-peh and confer with his Excellency Kwan, who in due time forwarded to the Prince a new set of Regulations proposed by Mr. Hart.

The Prince will observe that war-tax offices and customs barriers had been opened all along the river, for the purpose of taxing goods passing up or down it, the proceeds of the collection being applied to provincial expenses and to the maintenance of the forces now in the field in different places. After the river trade was opened, however, there was a great falling off in the war taxes and the Customs revenue, in consequence of the practices resorted to by fraudulent merchants intent upon evasion; hence loud complaints of deficiency in the military chest, and a lack of funds to meet the expenses to which the provinces are severally liable: all which embarrassment being attributable to the levy of duties at Shanghae instead of (at the ports of shipment and discharge), his Excellency Kwan, in accordance with his instructions to propose such modifications as occasion might require, was under the necessity of requesting that the Regulations agreed to last year might be so far modified as to admit of the revenue being collected at the different custom-houses on the river, to the end that there might be funds amply to meet (provincial) expenditure, and to keep the army in pay. And this request on the part of his Excellency Kwan being prompted by the actual condition of the region referred to, and not (by a passion for) change at random, the Prince, as the British Minister will remember, transmitted a copy of the (revised) Regulations to his Excellency for his consideration.

Mr. Hart has now arrived in the capital, and has conferred with their Excellencies the Ministers (composing the Foreign Office establishment), and after very careful deliberation they have agreed upon certain Regulations, thirteen in number.

It will scarcely be possible for his Highness to adopt the 5th of these, relating to the

towage of salt junks as this may too probably interfere with the salt revenue of the river. The 8th provides for the appointment of revenue cruisers at the different customs stations on the river; the 9th for the detachment of employés by the different custom-houses to Chin-kiang for the inspection of passes and certificates; and the 10th for the collection as heretofore of the import duties, leviable on foreign goods going up the river at Shanghae.

These three points regard the administration of the custom's establishments as within themselves, and need not, therefore, be matter of further deliberation between the Prince and the British Minister.

Upon the 11th, 12th, and 13th Articles, which affect the levy of transit duties, the Prince will have to address the British Minister a separate communication. As to the remainder, the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th, and 7th of the original draft affected the levy of river duties upon the river (at Hankow and Kiu-kiang), and to these, after careful consideration, the Ministers and Mr. Hart have added one more, which is now numbered the 2nd, making in all seven Articles for the regulation of river trade. A copy of these the Prince now forwards to the British Minister.

When his Excellency shall have considered the modifications now proposed, if he will reply to the Prince, his Highness will be enabled to send the necessary instructions to the different custom-houses on the river.

A necessary communication, to which is appended copy of the Regulations of Trade on the River. Addressed to the Honourable Mr. Bruce, &c.

Tung Chih, 1st year intercalary, 8th moon, 18th day (11th October, 1862).

Inclosure 3 in No. 102.

Mr. Bruce to the Prince of Kung.

Sir,

Peking, November 6, 1862.

IN my despatch accepting with some verbal modifications the revised Regulations for trade on the Yang-tze River, I stated to your Imperial Highness that I had a proposal to submit, which would be found favourable to the interests of all concerned.

On the confines of the provinces of Ngan-hwuy and Cheh-kiang, there is a district famous in foreign markets for the teas grown there.

While the country was in a tranquil state, these teas were sent by inland ways to Shanghae, whence they were embarked for foreign countries. But this usual and direct road is now closed, owing to the presence of the Tae-ping rebels in the line of the Great Canal; and if merchants attempt to carry teas by it, either they are stopped, or the rebels exact money from the tea-merchants for permission to pass: a proceeding which by increasing the price to the merchant, and supplying money to the rebels, is prejudicial both to the Impérial Government and to trade.

As, however, traders are ingenious in finding out new channels when old ones are stopped, and as Yang-tze River is now opened, and can be navigated by foreign flags without risk, it has become a practice to bring teas down to three places in the province, namely, Ngan-ching, Wu-hu, and Ta-tung; and the authorities, no doubt, appreciating the advantage of giving employment to the people, as a means of restoring order and tranquillity, have allowed, as I am informed, vessels engaged in the Yang-tze trade to ship produce at them for Shanghae.

Your Imperial Highness will perceive that the effect of the Regulations now adopted will be to stop this trade, because the only vessels that can navigate the Yang-tze while Nanking, &c., remain in the rebel possession are vessels under foreign flags. And I flatter myself that your Imperial Highness, seeing how important it is to trade, that this route should not be interfered with, while the ancient channel is barred, will be inclined to adopt any reasonable arrangement that may meet the wants of commerce in this request.

Merchants are already by Treaty allowed to proceed to that district for the purpose of buying these teas, and as they cannot return by the direct road to Shanghae, they must bring their purchases to the nearest point of the river to embark them. They may also hire Chinese boats for their transport; but, as I have stated above, these boats do not at present offer security.

I do not, however, propose that these places should be opened to trade, as are Kiu-kiang and Hankow, nor do I propose that all vessels under foreign flags should be permitted to repair to them. The remedy I suggest is provisional, and is confined to what is required to allow a safe and unobjectionable means of transport to the produce of that district. And

for that purpose I propose that steamers, and steamers only, should be allowed to touch at these places for the purpose of shipping produce, having previously obtained a permit from the Customs at Kiu-kiang or Hankow, which will enable the custom-house officers to verify the quantities taken in, and to provide for the payment of the local and customs dues upon the produce so shipped.

I feel convinced that the Imperial revenue will gain and not lose by this arrangement; and it offers this further advantage, that it will encourage the employment of steam-vessels in the river traffic. These vessels being of an expensive character, and being armed and commanded by respectable men, offer far better guarantees for the observance of regulations and for the peaceable conduct of their crews than lorchas and other craft of that description, whose proceedings have given rise to the complaints your Imperial Highness has addressed to me. I look upon this as a necessary step towards putting down illegal trading in the river.

The intelligence of your Imperial Highness makes it unnecessary for me to point out that should your Imperial Highness grant this favour, it will be accepted as a fresh proof of that friendly disposition and equitable consideration for the interests of foreign trade which distinguish the acts of the Imperial Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 102.

The Prince of Kung to Mr. Bruce.

(Translation.)

Peking, November 13, 1862.

THE Prince of Kung makes a communication in reply.

The Prince is in receipt of the British Minister's despatch of the 17th of the 9th moon (8th November). (After quoting it at length, the Prince proceeds—)

The three places specified not being by Treaty open to trade, the Prince feels that it would not be right to make any fresh move at these without due consideration. As the long-haired rebels, however, are not yet put down along the Yang-tze, and as without provisional concession it would not be possible, consequently, to show that favour to the mercantile classes which it is a chief desire (of the Prince or the Government) to show, the Prince has written to the Governor-General of the Two Kiang, and to the Governor of Ngan-hwui, to acquaint them that the British Minister proposes that steamers, and steamers only, should be allowed to visit these places; that a special pass should be issued to steamers to enable them to do so by the Customs of Hankow and Kiu-kiang; that the tariff and transit duties are to be paid as the Treaty (*lit.*, Regulation) requires; and that when the rebels at Nanking are put down, the order of proceeding required by the Treaty will be reverted to, and that the arrangement proposed is to the advantage of both parties. The Governor-General and Governor are to ascertain the merits of the case and to reply with all speed to his Highness, who does not doubt that, if the arrangement is advantageous and unattended with disadvantage, these officers will assent to its adoption, as both are men who give their attention honestly to the duties of their office.

On receipt of their report the Prince will of course again address the British Minister, that they may together decide on (the details of) the measure.

Meantime his Highness acknowledges his Excellency's communication.

A necessary communication addressed to the Hon. Mr. Bruce, &c.

Tung Chih, 1st year, 9th moon, 22nd day (13th November, 1862.)

Inclosure 5 in No. 102.

Notification.

British Legation, Peking, November 10, 1862.

THE Undersigned is directed to give notice that the Chinese Government having decided on opening custom-houses at Hankow and Kiu-kiang, has communicated to the Hon. F. Bruce, C.B., &c. a draft of revised Regulations under which, until these ports can be opened by Treaty, trade with them is to be carried on.

The provisional Regulations of the 5th December, 1861, will therefore continue in force only until the 1st January, 1863, on which day the revised Regulations published

below will come into operation. From and after that date any violation of them by vessels entering the river will be punishable by the penalties the revised Regulations provide.

By order.
(Signed) T. WADE,
Her Majesty's Secretary of Legation.

Revised Regulations of Trade on the Yang-tze-kiang.

Article 1. BRITISH vessels are authorized to trade on the Yang-tze-kiang at three ports only, viz., Ching-kiang, Kiu-kiang, and Hankow. Shipment or discharge of cargo at any other point on the river is prohibited, and violation of the prohibition renders ship and cargo liable to confiscation.

Native produce, when exported from any of these three ports, or foreign imports not covered by exemption certificate, or native produce that has not paid coast trade duty, shall, when imported into any of these three ports, pay duty as at the Treaty ports.

Art. 2. British merchant-vessels trading on the river are to be divided into two classes, namely:—

1st class. Sea-going vessels, that is, merchantmen trading for the voyage up the river above Chin-kiang, lorchas and sailing-vessels generally.

2nd class. Steamers running regularly between Shanghae and the river ports.

These two classes of vessels will be dealt with according to Treaty, or the rules affecting the river ports to which they may be trading.

All vessels, to whichever of the two classes they may belong, if about to proceed up the river, must first report to the customs the arms or other munitions of war they may have on board, and the numbers and quantities of these will be entered by the Customs on the vessel's river-pass. Permission to trade on the river will be withdrawn from any vessel detected carrying arms or munitions of war in excess of those reported to the Customs, and any vessel detected trading in arms or munitions of war will be liable to confiscation.

Any vessel falling in with a revenue cruiser of the Chinese Government will, if examination of them be required, produce her papers for inspection.

Art. 3. *Sea-going Vessels.*—British merchantmen, lorchas, and sailing-vessels generally, if trading at Chin-kiang, will pay their duties and tonnage dues at Chin-kiang.

If a vessel of this class is proceeding farther than Chin-kiang, that is, either to Kiu-kiang or to Hankow, her master must deposit her papers with the Consul at Chin-kiang, and must hand in her manifest to be examined by the Chin-kiang Customs; the Superintendent of which, on receipt of an official application from the Consul, will issue a certificate, to be called the Chin-kiang pass, to the vessel. The Chin-kiang pass will have entered upon it the number and quantities of arms, muskets, guns, swords, powder, &c., on board the vessel; also the number of her crew, her tonnage, and the flag she sails under. The Customs will be at liberty to seal her hatches, and to put a Customs employé on board her. On her arrival at Kiu-kiang, whether going up or coming down, her master must present her pass to the Customs for inspection.

The duties on cargo landed or shipped at Kiu-kiang or Hankow must all be paid in the manner prescribed by the Regulations of whichever of the two ports she may be trading at, and on her return to Chin-kiang she must surrender her Chin-kiang pass to the Customs at Chin-kiang, and the Customs, having ascertained that her duties and dues have been all paid, and that every other condition is satisfied, the grand chop will be issued to the vessel, to enable her to obtain her papers and proceed to sea.

The Customs will be at liberty to put an employé on board the vessel to accompany her as far as Lang-shan.

Any British vessel of this class found above Chin-kiang without a Chin-kiang pass will be confiscated. Any junk without Chinese papers will similarly be confiscated.

Art. 4. *River-Steamers.*—Any British steamer trading regularly on the river will deposit her papers at the British Consulate at Shanghae; and the Customs, on application of the British Consul, will issue a special river-pass (or steamer's pass) that shall be valid for the term of six months. Steamers trading on the river under this pass will be enabled to load and discharge, and will pay duties according to the rule affecting river-steamers.

On arriving off Chin-kiang or Kiu-kiang the steamer, whether proceeding up the river or down, will exhibit her pass to the Customs.

The tonnage-dues leviable on any steamer holding a river-pass shall be paid alternately at Chin-kiang, Kiu-kiang, and Hankow.

The Customs are at liberty to put a tide-waiter on board a steamer at any of these ports to accompany her up or down stream, as the case may be.

Infringement of River-Port Regulations will be punished by the infliction of the penalties in force at the ports open by Treaty; for a second offence the steamer's river-pass will also be cancelled, and she will be refused permission to trade thenceforward above Chin-kiang.

Any steamer not provided with a river-pass, if her master propose proceeding above Chin-kiang, will come under the rule affecting sea-going vessels laid down in Article 3, and will be treated accordingly.

Art. 5. *River-Steamers' Cargoes*.—1st. Where native produce is shipped at a river-port on board a steamer provided with a river-pass, the shipper must pay both export and coast-trade duty before he ships it. If it be for export to a foreign port this should be stated when the produce arrives at Shanghai; and if it be exported from Shanghai within the three months allowed, the shipper will obtain from the Shanghai Customs a certificate of its re-exportation; on production of which at the river-port of shipment, whether Chin-kiang, Kiu-kiang, or Hankow, the Customs of that port will issue a drawback for the amount of coast-trade duty paid.

2nd. Where import cargo is transhipped on board a river-steamer at Shanghai, it must first be cleared of all duties. The transshipment will not be authorized until the Customs are satisfied that the import duties have been paid.

Art. 6. *Native Craft owned or chartered by British Merchants* will pay duty on their cargo at the rates leviable on such cargoes under the Treaty Tariff. All such craft will further have to be secured by bond in the manner laid down in the Provisional Rules published on the 5th December, 1861, and on entry into any port will pay port-dues according to Chinese Tariff. If the cargoes of native craft so employed do not agree with their cargo certificate, the amount specified in their bonds will be forfeited to the Chinese Government. This provision is only valid until tranquillity is restored along the river.

Art. 7. British vessels of all classes, as well as junks owned or chartered by British merchants, must apply to the Customs at the port of departure for a cargo certificate ("tsung-tan"), which, on the vessel or junk's arrival at the port of destination, must be handed in to the Customs before permission to discharge can be given.

The above Regulations are provisional, and open to revision if necessary.

No. 103.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received February 16, 1863.)

(Extract.)

Peking, November 25, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch to General Staveley, and copies of despatches from that officer.

It is a remarkable fact, and throws some light on the nature of their sway, that the Tae-pings have not tried to seize some place on the coast, and open it to trade. It is evident that they consider it a hopeless task to collect any of the respectable and industrious Chinese around them, and that they are thus driven to attempt the conquest of one of the Treaty ports, in the hopes that the presence of foreigners and their trading relations may make its occupation profitable to them.

Inclosure 1 in No. 103.

Mr. Bruce to Brigadier-General Staveley.

(Extract.)

Peking, October 24, 1862.

HER Majesty's Government have not expressed the intention of garrisoning any other place than Shanghai, but it has expressed the intention of preventing, if possible, any of the Treaty ports from falling into the hands of the insurgents. If, therefore, the state of affairs in the neighbourhood of Shanghai were such as to allow you to make a demonstration that would save Ningpo or Foo-chow from danger, it appears to me that Her Majesty's Government would be well satisfied. With the aid of the Naval Commander-in-chief, there would be no difficulty in making such a demonstration without risk to Shanghai, for I do not believe that the Tae-pings can seriously attack these different points at the same time.

The great object of Her Majesty's Government is to secure the safety of the ports for the present, and to induce the Chinese authorities to organize such a force as will relieve us from the necessity of garrisoning them.

Inclosure 2 in No. 103.

Brigadier-General Staveley to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.)

Head-Quarters, Shanghai, November 5, 1862.

I HAVE to inform you that, at an interview I had with the Viceroy yesterday, he informed me that a Russian officer had come here from Peking and stated that it had been arranged between Prince Kung and the Russian Minister that a body of troops (the number of which he was unable to inform me), were to rendezvous at Japan immediately, and then come here and to Ningpo for action against the rebels; that the Russian officer who communicated this had left the day before for Japan.

I give you this information as I received it. I have no means of obtaining further particulars at present.

The Viceroy evinced much confidence in his troops being able to hold Kading.

Inclosure 3 in No. 103.

Brigadier-General Staveley to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.)

Head-Quarters, Shanghai, November 13, 1862.

I PURPOSE marching a column of 450 men to Nazaing on Saturday next, for the purpose of giving confidence to the Imperialists.

I have in a great measure succeeded in my endeavours to persuade the Chinese authorities to make roads practicable for artillery in the neighbourhood of Shanghai. Some are already made, and one is now being made to Nazaing.

The 22nd Punjaub Native Infantry and 5th Bengal Native Infantry leaving this command for India, I thought it a good opportunity to take their arms and accoutrements from them, and sell them at a valuation to the Chinese authorities. The arms, &c., of the 22nd have already been handed over, and those of the 5th will be so when that regiment is relieved.

No. 104.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received February 16.)

(Extract.)

St. Petersburg, February 4, 1863.

I SPOKE to Prince Gortchakoff this afternoon respecting the intervention contemplated by the Imperial Government in the contest now raging in China, and especially with reference to the projected operations of the Russian naval forces in the neighbourhood of Shanghai.

The Vice-Chancellor replied that the Imperial Government was not enabled to lend any very effectual assistance to the Central Government of China against the rebels, owing to the limited force which Russia possessed in the China Seas; the views of the Imperial Cabinet were, however, the same as those of France and England in this matter. He desired to show that this was the case, and to afford to the Central Government of China the moral countenance of the Russian flag, and such aid as he could offer with prudence. The Russian vessels of war, only two or three in number, had authority to operate on the coast, and to place themselves in correspondence with the French and English squadrons; the Imperial forces would be empowered to make descents, but not to advance into the interior.

I asked the Vice-Chancellor whether the Russian Commander would act in conjunction with the Chinese authorities. His Excellency said that he might do so, but that he would place himself in communication with the French and English Admirals. The Vice-Chancellor added that the instructions given to the Russian Admiral on the Pacific station had been communicated to Baron Brunnow.

No. 105.

Sir E. Lugard to Mr. Hammond.—(Received February 16.)

Sir,

War Office, February 16, 1863.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Russell, the inclosed copy of a letter which Sir George Lewis has caused to

be addressed to Brigadier-General Staveley, C.B., notifying the reduction which Her Majesty's Government have decided on effecting in the forces serving in China.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD LUGARD.

Inclosure in No. 105.

Sir E. Lugard to Brigadier-General Staveley.

Sir,

War Office, February 7, 1863.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 21st October last, in which you report that, in consequence of an opinion which had been expressed by a special Board of medical officers as to the unhealthiness of Shanghai as a station for European troops during the summer, you had made application to the Government of India for an additional Native Regiment to relieve Her Majesty's 31st Foot. In reply, I am to acquaint you that the despatch from the Secretary of State, to which you refer, only conveyed authority to you to apply to the Governor-General of India for additional troops in case of absolute necessity, meaning in case such a course should be deemed indispensable with a view to the protection of the lives and property of the inhabitants of Shanghai. By a letter received from the India Office it appears that the Government of India, adopting the same view of the instruction contained in the despatch in question, have declined to comply with your requisition for an additional regiment without further directions from home. Sir G. Lewis has intimated to Sir C. Wood his entire concurrence in, and approval of, the course thus taken by the Government of India.

I am to add that Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that the British military force at Shanghai may safely be reduced, and they desire that the 31st Regiment should be withdrawn at once, without relief, together with one Battery of Royal Artillery. You will communicate immediately with the Admiral on the Station as to the transport necessary for the conveyance of these troops to this country. Admiral Sir James Hope has suggested the employment of Her Majesty's ships "Euryalus" and "Sanspareil" on this service.

In my letter of the 2nd instant you have been already instructed to send back to India the remaining wing of the 5th Bombay Native Infantry with the least practicable delay.

With regard to the sanitary state of the troops at Shanghai, the inclosures of your despatch show that the site occupied is unhealthy, being on the edge of a tidal creek. If the requisite accommodation cannot be provided on a better and more healthy position, every effort should be made to render the present buildings as healthy as the circumstances will admit. The drainage should therefore be improved, and outside cleansing carefully attended to. The surface area per man should also be increased by one-third, at least, and the sheds freely ventilated all along the ridges, and charcoal filters used for the water.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD LUGARD.

No. 106.

Mr. Hammond to the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, February 19, 1863.

I AM directed by Earl Russell to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th of September, referring to your previous letter of the 20th of August, 1861, and calling attention to the further restrictions which you state the Chinese Government seek to impose upon the Treaty privileges of British subjects.

I am to state to you, in the first place, that Lord Russell regrets that, through inadvertence, no direct answer was returned to your letter of the 20th of August. Nevertheless, the matters to which you alluded therein were fully considered in communication with the Earl of Elgin, and the views of Her Majesty's Government were conveyed to Mr. Bruce on the 26th of February last.

On that day Mr. Bruce was informed that Her Majesty's Government considered that he had satisfactorily explained the arrangements made by him in regard to the several matters in discussion between him and the foreign mercantile community—arrangements

which appeared, on the whole, to have met with the approval of that community; and that as regards the distinction made Mr. Bruce in favour of the conveyance of Chinese produce from port to port of China for native consumption, as distinguished from such conveyance for re-exportation, he had obtained from the Chinese Government as large a measure of concession as it was reasonable to expect.

With respect to the wish expressed in your letter of the 20th of August, that disputes between foreign merchants and the Chinese Customs authorities should be referred to a Consular Court instead of to a Mixed Tribunal as proposed by Mr. Bruce, Lord Russell stated to him that on this point also Her Majesty's Government concurred in the view he had taken, for it seemed evident that the Chinese Government would not submit, nor could they fairly be required, to be bound in such cases by the decision of a Consular Court.

As regards the specific grievances which form the subject of your letter of the 4th of September, I am directed by Lord Russell to make the following observations:—

These grievances are,—

1. Certain alleged alterations in the Regulations of Trade on the Yang-tze River.
2. The limitation of the right to resort to the interior of China for the purposes of trade.

On the first point you state that when the navigation of the Yang-tze was opened to foreigners in April 1861, the Regulations provided that all duties, whether import or export, should be paid in Shanghai or Chin-kiang-foo, and that above the latter port the whole of the river up to Hankow should be opened to foreign trade; and you complain that the Chinese Government now dispute the right of foreigners to trade upon this river, excepting at the Consular ports of Chin-kiang-foo, Kiu-kiang, and Hankow, and, further, wish to establish custom-houses at the two last-named places.

On the second point you state that the British community at Kiu-kiang was informed, in a circular issued in May last by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul there, that Her Majesty's Minister at Peking had decided that British subjects going into the interior for trading purposes could not open or rent hongs or buildings, or reside permanently in the places to which they resort, but must live in Chinese houses, inns, or boats.

And you proceed to say that it might be supposed that the right to trade would include the right to do acts necessary to conduct such trade, and that without extensive premises it is manifestly impossible to carry on the business of a merchant; but that even if it were not so, the XIIth Article of the Treaty of Tien-tsin expressly states that British merchants may purchase or rent land or buildings, "whether at the ports or other places."

The Chamber, therefore, considers the prohibition of Her Majesty's Minister as directly opposed to this clause of the Treaty.

Your letter concludes by urging that, "in dealing with an Asiatic nation like the Chinese, any surrender of a right is attributed by them to any cause rather than forbearance on our part, and on that account, if for no other, such a surrender should never be made;" and you add your opinion, "that a firm and decided tone in demanding all privileges accorded to the British nation by the late Treaty of Tien-tsin will best preserve that peace which all classes, and more especially merchants, are so anxious to maintain."

With respect to the first of the above-mentioned subjects of complaint, viz., the withdrawal from foreigners of the general right of trading on the Yang-tze river, alleged to have been conceded, I am to observe that the Xth Article of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, which regulates this question, provides as follows:—

Article X. "British merchant-ships shall have authority to trade upon the Great River (Yang-tze). The Upper and Lower Valley of the river being, however, disturbed by outlaws, no port shall be for the present opened to trade, with the exception of Chin-kiang, which shall be opened in a year from the date of the signing of this Treaty.

"So soon as peace shall have been restored British vessels shall also be admitted to trade at such ports as far as Hankow, not exceeding three in number, as the British Minister, after consultation with the Chinese Secretary of State, may determine shall be ports of entry and discharge."

It is therefore clear that, under the Treaty of Tien-tsin, the Chinese Government are entitled to restrict all British trade to the one port of Chin-kiang until peace shall have been restored.

Mr. Bruce, however, has reported that, in consequence of a representation which he addressed to the Prince of Kung in November 1860, the Chinese Government agreed to concede more than they were by Treaty bound to do, and to open two other ports on the river above Chin-kiang, but that they distinctly refused from the first to do more; or to agree to the Regulations issued by Sir James Hope and Sir Harry Parkes, which were designed to permit trade on the whole river.

Lord Russell, therefore, is quite unable to perceive on what ground the allegation rests that the Chinese Government have withdrawn a right which they previously conceded ; on the contrary it is evident that the Chinese Government have made a concession which Her Majesty's Government had no Treaty right to require.

The establishment of local Custom-houses at Hankow and Kiu-kiang, the two ports which have been open to foreign trade above Chin-kiang-foo, is a measure which Lord Russell is disposed to think, from reports received from Mr. Bruce, has been adopted on sufficient grounds.

It might fairly be proposed to the Chinese authorities, if such is the desire of the British merchants concerned, that Customs duties should be levied only at Shanghae, in the understanding that, for the purpose of protecting their revenue, the Chinese Custom-house might require the payment of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. (commuted transit duty) at the same time, but as there appear to be other grave reasons which may naturally indispose the Chinese Government to this course, Lord Russell does not think that it ought to be in any way insisted on or pressed.

With regard to the second point, viz., the prohibition to open honges or buildings, and to reside permanently in the interior, I am to state that the XIIth Article of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, upon which the claim to these privileges rests, is to the following effect :—

Article XII. " British subjects, whether at the ports or at other places, desiring to build or open houses, warehouses, churches, hospitals, or burial-grounds, shall make their agreement for the land or buildings they require at the rates prevailing among the people, equitably, and without exaction on either side."

This Article, even if taken by itself, could hardly, as Lord Russell conceives, be construed so as to imply that British subjects had the right to build or open houses, warehouses, churches, hospitals, or burial-grounds in any part or place throughout the length or breadth of the Chinese Empire. If this had been its intention, these privileges would certainly have been conceded in more explicit terms ; but considered, as it must necessarily be, in connection with the preceding Article (XI) which expressly limits to particular cities, towns, and ports, the rights of British subjects in these respects, Lord Russell is of opinion that this claim is one which cannot be sustained.

The limitation of foreign trade to particular places is, moreover, strictly in accordance with the law and practice of other nations under analogous circumstances. Lord Russell need only refer to the restrictions which the British and French Governments carefully enforce in the rivers of Western Africa which are under their control.

But it may be contended that abandoning the legal grounds on which these claims are rested, it might, nevertheless, be desirable in the interest of British trade with China, that Her Majesty's Government should renew the attempt to obtain further concessions from the Chinese Government with respect to the trade of the Yang-tze.

On the question of policy which might thus be raised, Lord Russell is quite as unable to concur in the views expressed in your letter as on the question of law upon which I have already expressed his Lordship's opinion. Lord Russell believes that, so far as it is possible for Her Majesty's Government to regulate the intercourse of British subjects with the Chinese authorities and population in places beyond Consular control, the one great object which should be steadily kept in view, especially during the continuance of the present intestine disturbances, is to diminish by every means in their power the points of contact between them.

The despatches received from Mr. Bruce contain ample evidence of the collisions and crimes which invariably follow such contact, and which tend more than anything else to prejudice and retard the growth of friendly relations and of sound commercial intercourse.

Instead, therefore, of pressing the Chinese Government to relax regulations which they have felt it necessary for their own protection to adopt, Lord Russell considers that Her Majesty's Government should give them on all occasions their moral support in resisting undue encroachments on their authority and administration, and in checking those forms of commercial enterprize which, however, profitable to individual traders, are fatal to the permanent interests of trade.

Lord Russell, therefore, desirous of holding the Chinese Government bound by the stipulations of Treaties, cannot encourage British subjects in claiming, still less in resorting to force for the purpose of establishing, privileges inconsistent with those Treaties.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 107.

Earl Russell to Sir F. Bruce.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February 20, 1863.*
 I INCLOSE, for your information, a copy of a letter* which I have directed to be addressed to the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce in reply to their Memorial of the 4th of September, complaining of the proposed Regulations for Trade on the Yang-tze-kiang, and of the restrictions placed on trade in the interior of China.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 108.

Earl Russell to Sir F. Bruce.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February 23, 1863.*
 I HAVE received your despatch of the 22nd of November, inclosing a copy of a letter which you had addressed to Rear-Admiral Kuper on that day, explaining your views as to the rights of the Chinese Government with respect to its armed cruisers, and with respect to vessels trading under foreign flags at places not open by Treaty; and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve of your views on both points.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 109.

Earl Russell to Sir F. Bruce.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February 23, 1863.*
 I HAVE received your despatch of the 22nd of November, inclosing copies of correspondence with Prince Kung, and of the revised Regulations for Trade in the Yang-tze-kiang; and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve of your views and proceedings as reported in that despatch.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 110.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received February 27.)

Sir, *Admiralty, February 26, 1863.*
 I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, an extract of a letter, dated the 15th January last, from Rear-Admiral Kuper, reporting the state of affairs at Shanghai.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure in No. 110.

Rear-Admiral Kuper to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

January 15, 1863.

THE state of affairs in the North of China, as concerning the rebels, continues to be satisfactory; but I am informed by the Senior Officer at Shanghai that much dissatis-

faction has lately been exhibited by Ward's disciplined troops in consequence of their pay being much in arrears. A mutiny having broken out, Colonel Burgevine obtained the money by force from the house of the Chinese authority charged with the duty of paying the men, and issued it to his troops. The result of this ill-advised act has been that Colonel Burgevine was compelled to take refuge on board ship to escape the vengeance of the Chinese officials, who threatened to cut off his head. Captain Borlase, in conjunction with Brigadier-General Staveley, had remonstrated strongly with the Chinese authorities, urging upon them the necessity of more regularity in the payment of the troops, and requesting that Colonel Burgevine might not be molested. The projected expedition to Nanking has been abandoned.

No. 111.

Consul Medhurst to Earl Russell.—(Received March 3.)

My Lord,

Shanghai, January 8, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, an extract of my despatch of this day's date addressed to the Honourable Mr. Bruce.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST.

Inclosure in No. 111. 4

Consul Medhurst to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.)

Shanghai, January 8, 1863.

GENERAL BURGEVINE has just been degraded and dismissed from the command of Ward's Chinese brigade by the Governor of the Province, under the following circumstances:—

About two months ago, General Burgevine undertook to wrest Nanking from the Tae-pings, and Wao, late Taoutae here, who had originally employed Ward to organize the brigade, and who has ever since been considered its Director-General, was deputed by Governor Le, together with other Chinese officers, to co-operate with Burgevine in the proposed attack. Transports were accordingly hired by the authorities, and Burgevine provided himself with a large accession to his stock of arms and ammunition, most of the necessary funds for both purposes being cheerfully advanced by the Governor, in the prospect of the grand result which was to follow.

For some reason or other Burgevine delayed moving at the time specified, and when urged to fulfil his engagement, promised again and again to do so within a certain date, and as often evaded it. Time flew by, and Wao, Taoutae, not finding himself joined by Burgevine, returned to Shanghai without having effected anything. This fact, and the discovery of large deficiencies of public money at Shanghai, led to the denouncement and disgrace of Wao, Taoutae. Meanwhile, the hire of the transports went on accumulating and new purchases being made, and, ere two months had elapsed, some 200,000 taels had been squandered, without any practical result to show for the money. During this delay, moreover, Burgevine's measures for the defence of the city of Sung-keong, such as cutting streets, pulling down suburbs, digging ditches, &c., had so exasperated the inhabitants, that they were on the point of rising against their authorities, both Chinese and foreign.

At this juncture of affairs the pay of Burgevine's brigade fell into arrears, and the men clamoured for payment, shutting the gates of Sung-keong, and threatening to take and behead the civil authorities. They also accused Burgevine of having employed funds properly given him for their use, to the hire of coolies in the military works above referred to. Burgevine quieted his men by undertaking to repair to Shanghai and get the money required, amounting in all to some 40,000 taels; and he came here accordingly on the 4th instant with about 150 soldiers armed. He went at once to the residence of Takee, an expectant mandarin and tea-merchant residing within the Settlement, and who had always been employed by the Government to liquidate all expenses connected with the brigade. Takee owned to having the money in his house, but taunted Burgevine with cowardice and incapacity, and told him he should not have a cash till he started for Nanking. Burgevine, desperate, and it is reported somewhat excited by liquor, struck Takee, and gave the word for a ransack of the premises, which resulted in the discovery of the whole 40,000 taels; Takee and a number of his servants receiving serious wounds in

the fight that took place for its possession. Burgevine thereupon left for Sung-keong, and, it is said, paid a proportion of the amount thus secured to his troops.

This high-handed measure so incensed the authorities that they determined forthwith to dismiss Burgevine from the command, and to punish him with death for disobedience of orders, resistance to lawful authority, and open burglary. They hesitated, however, to lay hands on him, and as much dreaded to leave him in possession of so dangerous a power as the command of a force like this; so they hurried to General Staveley and myself to beg that we would concert measures to seize the delinquent, and place him in their hands.

The General naturally refused, but said he would not object to inform Burgevine that the Viceroy had denounced him, and asked for aid in capturing his person, and to recommend him to give up charge peaceably.

After some demur, and an interview with the Governor, when the General was favoured with a troublesome reiteration of the same demand, it was arranged that the General's message should be sent; that Captain Holland, now second in command, should be requested by him to take temporary charge; that he should select some other officer for permanent appointment to the post; and that the Governor should dispatch a written order of dismissal to Burgevine, and a similar authority to Captain Holland.

General Staveley fulfilled his part of the arrangement forthwith, but the Governor neglected to carry out his portion of the bargain. Luckily no evil consequences ensued, for Burgevine left Sung-keong at once, and came down here in one of the Chinese Government steamers. Since that the Chinese authorities have advertised him in the papers as dismissed from the command, but he has not yet been formally degraded from office. He is at present living in the "Confucius" which he has anchored alongside Her Majesty's ship "Pearl;" Captain Borlase, R.N., having offered him protection from all interference for the present.

Further particulars on this subject shall be transmitted in due course. Meanwhile General Staveley has, I believe, determined not to interfere in favour of appointing a successor unless officially requested to do so, and until he is satisfied that funds for the support of the corps shall be punctually and regularly forthcoming.



APPENDIX.

No. 1.

Mr. Elliot to Mr. Hammond.—(Received October 28.)

Sir, *Downing Street, October 25, 1861.*

I AM directed by the Secretary of State to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Russell, the inclosed copy of a letter addressed by Mr. Perceval, Member of the Legislative Council of Hong Kong, and Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce in that Colony, to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

This letter, which is a duplicate, has been received in a despatch from Sir H. Robinson, Governor of the Colony of Hong Kong.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. FREDK. ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 1.

Mr. Perceval to Lord J. Russell.

My Lord, *Hong Kong, August 26, 1861.*

THE Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce has of late given its attentive consideration to the working of the Chinese Custom-house system, as developed since the negotiation of the Treaty of Tien-tsin.

The Chamber represents not only most fully the mercantile interests of this colony, but to a great extent the whole foreign trade of China, and it has found, by recent experience, that as at present carried on, the Custom-house tends to injure seriously the commercial relations of foreigners, and more especially of British subjects, with the Chinese Empire. Repeated references have been made to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking on various points that have, from time to time, arisen in connection with this question, but as the interpretation placed by his Excellency upon some provisions of the Treaty differs widely from the sense in which it is generally understood by the mercantile community, the Chamber thinks it important that their case should be placed before your Lordship for the decision of Her Majesty's Government.

The characteristic of the present system, as compared with that formerly in force, is that certain foreigners are employed in Custom-house service at nearly all the Treaty ports, who acting in the name of the Chinese Superintendent of Customs, aided by personal irresponsibility and an almost unfettered exercise of the power of confiscation, have established a control of a most despotic nature over the details of foreign trade. It is well known that this system has been set in operation mainly through the influence of Her Majesty's Representatives in China, and that many of the chief situations in the foreign department of the Custom-house are now filled by individuals whom they have allowed to be drafted from Her Majesty's Consular and Diplomatic services. That one design of Government in this interference was to enforce greater integrity and fairness in the collection of duties, and thus to benefit the legitimate trader, is willingly admitted; but along with this innovations have gradually crept in, which have a directly injurious tendency. It cannot be doubted that were the influence of Government to be directed to the reform of the Custom-house system in the same manner as to its establishment, the results would be equally potential, and it is to this policy that the Chamber would earnestly solicit your Lordship's favourable consideration.

In order to establish some check upon the acts of the foreigners employed, the Chamber has arrived at the conclusion that it is most desirable their official character, and the circumstance of their proceedings being done in the name of the Chinese Superintendent of Customs, should not shield them from being amenable to a Consular or other foreign Court for damages at the instance of any suitor who may prosecute them for injury sustained, when, in the judgment of the Court, they exceed their legitimate powers. Considerable doubt appears to exist whether they are so amenable at present, and a Queen's Order in Council might become necessary to settle the point, so far as British subjects are concerned, while different arrangements would be required in the case of other foreigners. The Chamber further regards it as of the highest consequence that the Custom-house should be deprived of the power of confiscation on its own authority, and that no penalty for breach of revenue laws, whether by confiscation or fine, should be inflicted upon a British subject, except by a Consul, after a fair and open trial.

Whatever favour the new system may have met with from the Chinese officials, there can be little doubt that it is most obnoxious to the native trading classes, high and low, and at some of the ports, Canton and Swatow more especially, very unmistakeable instances of this ill-will have been shown. An illegal and dangerous practice has been introduced on the Canton River of manning with foreigners various craft, including an armed steamer, to fight as revenue cruizers; and through this agency, ostensibly on account of acts of alleged smuggling, lives have been lost, property plundered and destroyed, and, as there is every reason to believe, much injustice committed. Your Lordship doubtless recollects the stress that has been so often laid by Ministers and Consuls in China upon the pernicious consequences of violence exercised by lawless foreigners, and the excited feeling which has at times thus been raised in England. The Chamber believes that the consequences of this organized plan of foreign violence, although flourishing under high official sanction, will be infinitely more pernicious than any lawless acts of isolated criminals in producing detestation of the foreign name and hostility to the innocent fellow-countrymen of these individuals, and they would urge that instructions be forthwith sent to all Consuls to put in force the provisions of the Order in Council prohibiting British subjects from bearing arms in the Chinese service, and that such arrangements be entered into with other foreign nations as will prevent this Ordinance from being evaded by the employment of Europeans or Americans not owing allegiance to Her Majesty. So far as the Chamber is aware, there is no case on record where forcible resistance has been offered by foreigners to a Custom-house seizure under the new system. Any resistance has proceeded from Chinese, and with them the cruizers of the native Government, manned by their own subjects, ought to be fully able to cope.

The design of the Treaty of Tien-tsin unquestionably was to afford a greater degree of expansion to British trade with China, and greater privileges to Her Majesty's subjects, official and non-official, in access to the interior and in intercourse with the Chinese authorities. The simplest and most obvious inference consequently is, that it could not possibly be the design of the Treaty to deprive British subjects of any commercial privilege which they enjoyed previous to its existence. Nevertheless, the faithlessness of the Chinese, aided by the trained astuteness of the foreigners whom they employ, has endeavoured to detect flaws in the language of the Treaty, and to apply their assumed discoveries to the detriment of British interests. And instead of these inferences being repelled by the British Envoy, as the whole spirit of the original negotiations might have led us to expect, the action of the Chinese Custom-house in that direction has not been at all interfered with. A very signal instance of this has lately appeared in an order from Prince Kung, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, directing the Superintendents of Customs at all the Treaty ports not to issue henceforward the usual exemption certificates on native produce by foreign vessels, which would free the shipments from a second payment of the Tariff duties. The effect of this order is, that tea shipped from Amoy to Foo-chow, or silk from Ningpo to Shanghai, for eventual re-exportation to Europe, is charged with full Tariff duty on leaving the first port, the same on entering the second, and the same on finally quitting China, or treble duty in all. In other words, the foreign carrying trade between port and port, which since the first opening out of the country had been gradually extending and becoming a source of large employment to foreign shipping, will be virtually destroyed; while the benefits hoped for from the opening of the new Northern ports must fail to be realized, since in many cases the only outlet for their trade is Shanghai or one of the other larger centres of direct intercourse with foreign countries. If this order was issued with Mr. Bruce's concurrence, it is inconceivable to the Chamber how he could have assented to such a sacrifice of his country's interests. If it appeared without his knowledge or against his will, it cannot be regarded as other than a heavy calamity that,

after costly wars and elaborate Treaties, British influence in the counsels of the Chinese Government should have fallen so low. Under any circumstances the prompt intervention of your Lordship to require the re-assertion of a right pertaining to British shipping and British trade, never until now questioned, becomes of the greatest moment.

Another evasion of the Treaty successfully practised of late has received Mr. Bruce's direct sanction. The Shanghai Custom-house now enforces payment of the transit dues referred to in that document. The language of the Treaty (Article XXVIII) is plain, that the merchant is to enjoy the privilege, at his own option, of commuting the transit dues levied in the country for a single payment of say $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. *ad valorem*; but there is nothing except a somewhat obscure passage (Rule 7, Clauses 3 and 5) in the Supplementary Rules (now alleged to override the Treaty itself) which can warrant the belief that he is obliged so to commute them. Yet the following is the manner in which the Chinese and their foreign Custom-house officers are allowed to trifle with these important interests. On silk, at Shanghai, they exact 5 taels per picul in lieu of old dues amounting to much less than that rate; and although there is reason to believe that other dues are levied upon the silk before the foreigner ever gets possession of it at all. On teas to Canton, on the other hand, no efforts have succeeded in getting passes which would free the produce from all inland imposts by a single payment of $1\frac{1}{4}$ taels per picul, because under the existing system about three times that rate is levied in the interior. A mode of dealing with the trade so grossly unfair in itself, and so opposed to all the representations to merchants, upon which Lord Elgin based his negotiations in this very matter, should not be suffered to pass without opposition and remonstrance. Besides this some check is grievously wanted upon the power of provincial mandarins to levy duties and "squeeze" on imports and exports at their own will and pleasure; and to defeat this will require unceasing vigilance and energy on the part of foreign authorities. Rightly or wrongly, the British Representatives in China are believed to favour the idea of a centralized administration and a revenue for Imperial as distinguished from local purposes; and as in the existing state of China this only diminishes the resources and importance of the provincial authorities without providing any substitute for what it deprives them of, the latter find it a notable expedient to make British trade pay the penalty, and fill their coffers with these illegal though tacitly admitted imposts.

There are many points on which Custom-house reform might be judiciously applied with the greatest advantage to trade, but with which it is unnecessary to trouble your Lordship, inasmuch as they rather constitute matters of local arrangement, easily remediable were Her Majesty's Representatives in China to afford that co-operation to the mercantile community which might not unreasonably be looked for. One difficulty, however, may be mentioned, viz., the constant trouble in procuring adequate drawbacks on re-exportation (which becomes an absolute necessity where there is no bonding system), although cash payments are not required; but the merchant would be perfectly satisfied with a duty receipt forming a legal tender for future importations. Greater willingness to concede the just rights of the importer in this particular would doubtless follow the exertion of his fitting influence by the local Consul. That merchandize under any circumstances should only pay duty once, and that, if not imported for consumption in China, it should not pay duty at all, are not unreasonable requirements.

The statements now submitted to your Lordship are necessarily general, for to cumber them with their respective evidence would extend this Memorial to a wholly undue length. That they are well founded, however, is known not only to those engaged in commercial pursuits in China, but to many officers serving under Government. It is the belief of the Chamber that their commerce will experience heavy depression and discouragement if Government fails to remedy the grievances complained of, which might be fully done without depriving China of one dollar of just revenue; and it is therefore their earnest hope that your Lordship will be pleased to move effectually in the matter of this representation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ALEX. PERCEVAL,
Chairman of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce.

No. 2.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Perceval.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 11, 1861.

I AM directed by Earl Russell to acknowledge the receipt (through the Colonial Office) of your letter of the 26th of August, calling the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the working of the Chinese Custom-house system, as developed since the Treaty of Tien-tsin.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 3.

Earl Russell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 11, 1861.

I HAVE received from Mr. Perceval the duplicate of a letter dated August 26, of which the original is stated to have been forwarded to you, in which, as Chairman of the Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Perceval dwells at some length on the injurious effects of the Chinese Custom-house system, as developed since the Treaty of Tien-tsin.

I shall be glad to receive from you a detailed answer and explanation upon the various matters to which Mr. Perceval's letter relates; in the meantime I have merely caused the receipt of Mr. Perceval's letter to be acknowledged.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 4.

Mr. Bruce to Lord J. Russell.—(Received November 27.)

My Lord,

Peking, September 23, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inclose an Address from the Chamber of Commerce at Shanghae which that body has forwarded to me for transmission to your Lordship, together with a copy of my reply on some of the topics touched on.

I am unable, however, to enter further, by this mail, into the subject. By next mail I trust business will have been resumed sufficiently by this Government to enable me to report in detail on the questions alluded to.*

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

*Mr. Antrobus to Mr. Bruce.**British Chamber of Commerce, Shanghae,**August 26, 1861.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour of forwarding to you under this cover an Address to the Right Honourable Lord John Russell, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, upon the subject of the administration of the Imperial Maritime Customs at this port, and further drawing his Lordship's attention to the question generally. This Address bears the individual signatures of the members of this Chamber of Commerce, and I have respect-

* See "Papers relating to the Rebellion in China, and Trade in the Yang-tze-kiang River," presented to the House of Commons in pursuance of their Address dated April 8, 1862; Nos. 26 and 27.

fully to request that you will duly transmit it to the Secretary of State. I also have the honour to inclose for your Excellency's retention, a copy of the Address and of the pamphlet therein alluded to.

It becomes unnecessary for me in thus addressing you to enter at length upon the late innovations introduced, and illegal claims preferred, by the Customs authorities, as they are fully treated of in the Address to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs: but so serious are they considered to be by all interested in the trade of China and in British mercantile shipping, that it has been deemed expedient to lay the views of the Chamber before Her Majesty's Government in a direct Address to the Secretary of State, and in the hope that, in transmitting such communication, you may see fit to accord to its views and recommendations the assistance of your approval and support.

At the same time I beg most respectfully to urge your Excellency to remonstrate with the Government of Peking against the illegalities which, under its late instructions, have been attempted by the Imperial Maritime Customs, and to protest in such manner as may seem to your Excellency most appropriate, against those manifold exactions now imposed upon the local trade by the Imperial authorities, in direct infringement of the spirit of the Treaties which China has entered into with foreign countries.

I cannot help remarking, that whilst it is admitted that the orders in the late instance complained of came direct from Peking, and therefore allowed of little modification by the local authorities at Shanghai, it is at the same time much to be regretted that there appears to be a growing tendency on the part of the foreign Inspectors of Customs to retire from that position of counsellors and advisers of the native local authorities, in which, by a sound interpretation of Treaty clauses and practical knowledge of foreign habits and customs, they may be most useful, and to subside into mere silent dependents of the Superintendents of Customs.

It is not improbable that the reluctance to assume an active interposition between the Chinese authorities on the one hand, and foreign merchants on the other, may be the result of the irksomeness and distasteful character of such an occupation; but it is equally undoubted that if the exercise of such an influence as that alluded to be discontinued, one of the most effective arguments in favour of a foreign Inspectorate, and one which has hitherto to a great extent been carried into practice, is at once removed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. C. ANTROBUS, *Chairman.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 4.

Mr. Antrobus to Lord J. Russell.

*British Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai,
August 20, 1861.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour of inclosing in this cover an Address to your Lordship, bearing the signature of each firm and individual, being members of this Chamber of Commerce, on the subject of the Imperial Maritime Customs of China as at present administered at this port, and drawing your Lordship's attention to other important points connected with the general subject of the Chinese Customs.

It has been considered advisable to send the Address to your Lordship, signed in this manner, for the purpose of showing the perfect unanimity which exists upon the subject amongst the representatives of British trade at this port.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. C. ANTROBUS, *Chairman.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 4.

The Shanghai Chamber of Commerce to Lord J. Russell.

*British Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai,
August 20, 1861.*

My Lord,

WE, the Undersigned, Members of the British Chamber of Commerce of Shanghai, beg most respectfully to draw your Lordship's attention to a matter which gravely affects

our commercial interests in this country, and in many respects, in our opinion, most seriously trenches upon our Treaty rights.

It is to the administration of the Imperial Maritime Customs of China, as regards foreign trade, that we allude. Your Lordship is aware that the maritime customs at this port have now for many years been directed by foreign Inspectors, and within the last eighteen months the same system of a foreign Inspectorate has been extended to most of the ports opened to foreign trade by the Treaties of Nanking and Tien-tsin. The very fact of an administration by foreigners has necessarily involved a much greater strictness in matters of detail than prevailed under the previous and more lax supervision of the native authorities, and many facilities formerly granted both as regards the hours and the mode of passing business through the office of the Customs have been withdrawn. The restrictions have at various times caused considerable dissatisfaction amongst the community of this port, and called forth remonstrances and applications for improvement from the Chamber of Commerce; but it has always been acknowledged that if the great argument adduced in favour of a foreign Inspectorate could be practically borne out, viz., that it ensured an equal collection of duties from all concerned, and afforded a sure protection to the honest trader against evasions of a Treaty Tariff by unscrupulous competitors, and that if the system were equally applied to all the ports of importance open to foreign trade, it would be unbecoming to oppose such an institution solely on account of the additional trouble in the transaction of business to which, from its constitution, it must necessarily give rise.

In thus premising we desire to assure your Lordship that even on the present occasion our remonstrance is not intended to be directed against the system of the foreign Inspectorate, but against those illegalities which, in infringement of our Treaty rights, have lately been attempted by the Imperial Maritime Customs, even when enjoying the advantage of foreign experience and advice in their administration.

This Chamber of Commerce has during the last two years more than once addressed Her Majesty's Minister and Chief Superintendent of Trade, the Hon. F. Bruce, upon the subject of the Customs Administration, but has not been favoured in reply with any exposition of the views of his Excellency; nor has it, to its regret, been able to observe as the result of official, although silent, action any amelioration in the state of things so much complained of. On the contrary, the latest infringements of our Treaty rights have proved so much more serious than any which preceded them, that it has become incumbent upon us, in our own defence and in that of the important interests confided to our care, whilst again drawing the attention of Her Majesty's Minister to the facts of which we complain, to present them with the utmost respect to your Lordship's most serious consideration.

We take, therefore, the liberty of inclosing to your Lordship a printed pamphlet containing the Minutes of the late annual general meeting of this Chamber, of the resolutions passed at that meeting, and of certain cases submitted to the Chamber, wherein it is affirmed, and justly so in our opinion, that the Imperial Customs have exceeded their own rights, and infringed upon those of British subjects in three particulars, viz. :—

1. In exacting duties upon ships' stores contrary to Rule 2 attached to the Tariff of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, and in accompanying such illegal collection with the obvious inconsistency complained of by the storekeepers of Shanghai (case No. 5); any levy at all upon such articles placing equally their importers and British shipping which consumes these stores in a worse position than that held under the Treaty of Nanking.

2. In claiming to collect transit duties upon Chinese produce purchased by foreigners within the actual limits of this port; in claiming them upon Chinese produce merely transported from the open port of Hankow to the open port of Shanghai; and in claiming them upon British goods forwarded from this, their port of importation, to the open port of Hankow: such claims being entirely at variance with Article XXVIII, and Rule 7 attached to the Treaty of Tien-tsin.

3. In refusing to continue to grant exemption certificates in cases of imported merchandize re-exported to another port, such refusal being in direct contradistinction to Article XLV of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, and in refusing to continue to grant exemption certificates upon the export of merchandize from one Treaty port to another, the latter refusal, enforced without a moment's notice, being in opposition to long-established custom under the Treaty of Nanking, and to the spirit pervading the Treaty of Tien-tsin that merchandize shall, except in the case of becoming subject to transit duties, be only once liable for the amounts laid down in the Tariff.

The first irregularity complained of will depend upon the interpretation to be given to the term "ships' stores," and we most respectfully submit that this, as well as the term "household stores" immediately preceding it, should be read in their widest sense, as is evidently to be deduced from the context of Rule 2, and from the practice universally in vogue under the Treaty of Nanking.

In the second instance, in which transit duties have been claimed, we need but refer to the terms of Article XXVIII of the Treaty of Tien-tsin to refute the position lately assumed by the Imperial Maritime Customs, and it is entirely beyond our comprehension how that Article, or its explanatory Rule No. 7, can be read in any other sense than that transit duties become leviable, in certain cases, upon produce purchased by a foreigner inland and conveyed to a port, or upon imports of a foreigner conveyed from a port to an inland market, and that conveyance from one Treaty port to another will not of itself subject either produce or goods to such impost.

There is one point, however, in connection with transit duties which has lately been raised, and to which we beg to draw your Lordship's particular attention. It is now asserted by the Imperial Maritime Customs, and we believe the opinion is also held by Her Majesty's Minister in China, that by Rule No. 7, which is to be "equally binding upon both countries with the Treaty itself," the payment of transit duties as now commuted for one half of the Tariff duty is no longer a matter "at the option of any British subject," as is expressly laid down in Article XXVIII, but that the half Tariff rate is in all cases to be applied.

With all due submission we cannot interpret Article XXVIII, and Rule 7 intended for "the better explanation" of that Article, as correctly bearing any such interpretation. By the Article it was provided that within a certain stated time the Chinese authority appointed to superintend "the collection of duties should declare the amount of duties leviable on produce between the place of production and the port of shipment, and upon imports between the Consular ports and the inland markets, and that a notification thereof should be published in English and Chinese for general information."

After inspection of such notification it was to be at the option of any British subject to pay the duties in accordance with the notification, or to commute them by payment of a single charge which was to be "calculated, as nearly as possible, at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. *ad valorem*," and to be "fixed for each Article at the Conference to be held at Shanghai for the revision of the Tariff."

At that Conference, no doubt in view of the fact that the Tariff duties are supposed to be established on a basis of 5 per cent. *ad valorem*, it was determined that, instead of declaring a rate for each Article, half Tariff duties should constitute the fixed rate for transit duties, and that the notification required under Article XXVIII of the Treaty should be dispensed with; but we most respectfully submit to your Lordship that Rule No. 7 being in explanation of, and not overriding, Article XXVIII of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, the option conferred upon the British subject in the body of the Treaty has not been removed by the Rule, but that it still remains within his province to decide whether he will pay on his goods or produce the rates levied at the inland native custom-houses, or avail himself of a commuted charge in the form of the transit duty.

One practical illustration will, we trust suffice to show your Lordship that our view of the question is in accordance, not only with the wording, but the evident intentions of the Treaty to limit the transit duty to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. *ad valorem*. The native inland duties from the tea districts surrounding the important port of Hankow do, in fact, represent about $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the value of the produce, amounting as they do to five or six mace per picul; but if the option of selecting this mode of payment be now denied to a British subject, and 1 tael 2 mace and 5 candereens be enforced in accordance with the present claim of the Customs, he not only is inflicted with a payment 100 per cent. heavier than that imposed on the native dealer who is competing with him, but all the benefits of the transit-duty clause, hitherto regarded as the main advantage obtained by the Treaty of Tien-tsin, become neutralized and destroyed.

In respect of the refusal of the Imperial Maritime Customs to continue to grant exemption certificates on Chinese produce, the Customs rely upon their interpretation that Article XLV applies only to foreign merchandize. We, on the other hand, rely upon the text of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, and submit that there is no reservation implied or expressed by which the reading of the Imperial Maritime Customs can be supported; on the contrary, that the term "merchandize" applies inclusively to all articles, whether of foreign or native production.

Moreover, two practical illustrations will, we think, exhibit to your Lordship the manner in which the principle claimed by the Customs would affect British interests. Article XLV, in its application, must, it is evident, affect all articles of Chinese growth or manufacture, or none; and if all, as the Customs maintain, it is clear that the two staples of the trade with Great Britain, tea and silk, as well as such articles as rhubarb, wool, oil, tallow, hides, hemp, and many others, a great extension in the shipment of which must have been anticipated as resulting from the Treaty of Tien-tsin, will equally be included with Chinese medicines, drugs, or cottons. A reference to the cases of Messrs. Adamson and Co.'s tea, and Messrs. Fletcher and Co.'s silk, imported from Ningpo to this port

(cases Nos. 6 and 7 in the pamphlet sent to your Lordship), will exhibit the result of applying the principle thus claimed by the Custom-house. Those firms have only been driven to avail of an expensive and circuitous route by way of Ningpo, owing to the state of anarchy from which the Imperial Government is unable to free the intermediate districts between the place of production and Shanghai. The produce is therefore forced to Ningpo, and the trade of that port in tea and silk not being sufficient to enable ships to be laden thence direct to Great Britain, the tea or silk has to be brought to this port for shipment.

The Imperial Maritime Customs at Ningpo and Shanghai would then claim on such produce, as Chinese merchandize, under Articles XLV and XXVIII, and Rule No. 7, the following sums:—

	Tea.			Silk.		
	Tael.			Tael.		
Transit duties to Ningpo	1	2	5	5	0	0
Export duty from Ningpo	2	5	0	10	0	0
Import duty at Shanghai	2	5	0	10	0	0
And, as is shown by the letter of the Commissioners of Customs of 26th July to Messrs. Fletcher & Co., the Imperial Maritime Customs further consider themselves entitled to:						
Export duty from Shanghai	2	5	0	10	0	0
Making in all	8	7	5	35	0	0
Instead of the extreme sum, as provided by Treaty, of..	3	7	5	15	0	0

So that it will be clear to your Lordship that a charge of 5 taels per picul, or 3*d.* per lb., on tea, and 20 taels per picul, or 1*s.* per lb., on silk, must be imposed upon the consumers in Great Britain in order to satisfy the interpretation placed upon Article XLV by the Chinese Maritime Customs, and that the exportation of either article would now be conducted at a disadvantage to the above extent as compared with an operation carried on under the protection of the Treaty of Nanking.

We further protest to your Lordship against the present refusal to grant exemption certificates on the export of merchandize from one port to another. It is argued by the Customs that Chinese traders in native craft are forced to pay both an export and an import duty, and that it would not be reasonable that foreigners should be placed upon a more advantageous footing than the native merchants.

We admit at once the correctness of the statement and the justice of the argument, with this important qualification, that it is a well-known fact that the two duties levied from the Chinese do not equal in amount the single one imposed upon foreign trade; that we are in practice to be placed on a par with the native traders, and that the imposition of a second duty, whether import or export, is quite foreign to the whole spirit of the Treaty of Tien-tsin.

We have thus endeavoured to point out the enhanced price of produce forced upon the consumer in Great Britain by the Chinese reading of Article XLV; we assure your Lordship that its effect upon the interests of British mercantile shipping will be equally disastrous, and that the coasting trade, to which it is by Treaty admitted, must inevitably to a great extent revert to uninsurable native craft, should such a reading of the Treaty be consented to; and it will be apparent to your Lordship that we are not overstating the case when we mention that since the 22nd July, on which date these various new Rules complained of were put in force, several vessels bound hither from the ports of Foo-chow and Ningpo, having full cargoes engaged for them from Chinese merchants, had to come to Shanghai in ballast in consequence of the increased duties to be paid, which became quite prohibitory upon the intended operations.

We therefore commend these our views to your Lordship's favourable attention, and trust we may be considered as claiming no more than is stipulated for us, both in letter and in spirit, by the Treaties under which we carry on our transactions in this country.

Whilst thus entering upon the subject of Customs administration in China, there are two further points connected with it to which we would direct the serious attention of Her Majesty's Government in the hope that your Lordship may see fit to intimate to Her Majesty's Minister in China a concurrence in the views entertained by this Chamber, and transmit instructions to carry such views into effect at as early a date as possible. We would strongly urge—

1. That in future no alterations in the Custom-house Regulations, initiated by the Imperial Maritime Customs, should be considered as binding upon the foreign community without having been first submitted to the British authorities, and without giving timely notice of their intended introduction into the local Custom-house system. In urging this request,

we do not intend to allude to any harbour police regulations which in the protection of its revenue the Chinese Government may find cause to establish, but to those which apply to the shipping and landing of cargo, hours of business, payment of duties, and all the ordinary details of the Customs administration.

2. In the second place we would urgently represent to your Lordship the advisability of effecting a complete change in the administration of Custom-house cases in which foreigners are accused of having infringed the provisions of the Treaty, and are deemed liable to fine or confiscation of their goods. The power of jurisdiction in these cases is assuredly at present somewhat undefined, and the uncertainty which exists is most detrimental to the interests of the British merchant. We have always maintained that it is not competent for the Chinese Custom-house authorities either to fine a British ship or subject, or to confiscate British property, without the active intervention of the British Consul, and we are unable to see any valid grounds why any divergence should be allowed in this one particular instance from the principle of extritoriality so wisely insisted on in our Treaties merely because the case in question is one in which the Chinese Government is interested in its own person, and not in that of its subjects. We trust, and have some reason to believe, that the feelings of dissatisfaction with which we regard the present state of this question of jurisdiction are shared by Her Majesty's Minister in China, and we hope that he may accord his support to the proposition which we beg respectfully to lay before your Lordship, that all such Custom-house cases should be taken before the British Consul and decided by him in open Court; but should such proposition be deemed impracticable, we would then respectfully suggest that a Joint Court should be instituted in which the Chinese and British authorities would act in concert in the exercise of an equal authority, and in open Court, by which course of procedure at once ample justice will be secured to both parties, and the publicity of the proceedings will prove an additional deterrent from infractions of the Treaty. We must add that in our opinion the element of foreign administration now introduced into the Imperial Maritime Customs appears to us an additional reason for the change we have just advocated to your Lordship, inasmuch as both from the arbitrary tendency which has occasionally been exhibited on the part of such foreign employés and their irresponsibility, as Custom-house officers, to their own authorities, the foreign merchant stands more in need of the active protection of his Consul than under the Custom-house system worked by the Chinese officers only, which was previously in operation.

We would further beg respectfully to suggest that in concert with the Chinese authorities, who we imagine could entertain no reasonable objection to the change, arrangements should be made by which, in lieu of the exemption certificates provided for on the re-exportation of imported merchandise under Article XLV, drawbacks should be allowed at the port of original entry, and the duty really be collected at the port of actual consumption. By such a change the native authorities at each port would receive the duties attaching to the trade of their own locality—a fact the importance of which, under the peculiar system by which the Government offices are farmed in China, cannot be overestimated, and to the neglect of which, and the prevalence of a contrary system, we have to attribute those very considerable impediments to a free trade which have lately been experienced at the new port of Tien-tsin.

3. Lastly, we feel forced to call your Lordship's attention in the most urgent manner to the heavy imposts with which the local trade not only at this but at all other Treaty ports has lately been visited at the hands of the Chinese authorities. The fact at the same time brings prominently before us the importance to the Imperial Government, in its present state of impoverishment and want of power, of the duties levied on foreign trade, and the futility of attempting to impose, by way of punishment upon the Government of China, any stated indemnity in the way of direct payment, if accompanied by the idea that a similar sum will not be extorted by indirect means from the foreign trade. It is an undoubted fact that the payment of two-fifths of the Imperial Maritime Customs to the French and British Governments in part payment of the war indemnities is the real cause of all those exactions under which our local trade has lately suffered so severely. It may be replied by the Chinese authorities that the propriety of these imposts is beyond the discussion of any foreign Powers, being in the form of taxation upon the native trade, and the real causes may be incapable of direct and tangible proof or exposure at our hands, but their enforcement is unfortunately too well known to us, their origin is equally clear, and their opposition to the whole spirit, if not to the actual letter, of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, is quite incontestable. The practical result is that the burden of the indemnities falls, not as intended upon the Chinese Government, but upon the foreign trade, and that on the resident merchants in China devolves the heavy bulk of these serious impositions.

We, therefore, most respectfully crave your Lordship's careful consideration of the various contents of this our memorial. We solicit your active intervention to prevent the recurrence of such illegalities as those of which the Imperial Maritime Customs have of late been guilty. We desire to urge upon Her Majesty's Government the high advisability of reconstructing the course of judicial proceedings in Custom-house cases; and we earnestly solicit a powerful remonstrance to the Court of Peking on the subject of the excessive imposts to which foreign trade is now made subject through the medium of local taxation at the Treaty ports.

We have, &c.
(Signed) W. R. ADAMSON & Co.
(And 33 others.)

Inclosure 4 in No. 4.

- *Mr. Bruce to Mr. Antrobus.*

Sir,

Peking, September 23, 1861.

I HAVE to acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 26, inclosing an Address to the Right Honourable the Lord John Russell on the subject of the administration of the Imperial Maritime Customs at Shanghai. I have forwarded the Address to its destination.

I think it desirable to mention that instructions with reference to the attempts to charge transit duties on Hankow exports and imports, and on produce brought via Ningpo to Shanghai, have been forwarded to Mr. Medhurst, and their substance communicated to the Imperial Government as the rule by which I shall abide. I trust they will be effectual, and stop the attempts complained of; though the death of the Emperor, and the political crisis consequent on that event, have for a time arrested the progress of business.

With reference to the creation of a tribunal to decide cases in which penalties or confiscations are demanded for breach of the Custom-house regulations, I agree in the expediency of such a tribunal: but the real difficulty lies in constituting a Board which will be satisfactory and fair to both parties; and on that point I should like to be furnished with any suggestions you may be enabled to offer.

On the subject of "ships' stores," it is to be observed that many of the articles for which exemption is now claimed are inserted in the Tariff as subject to duty, from which it would appear that they were not considered to fall properly under that description. It appears to me that in all cases where an article does not fall exclusively within the terms of ships' stores, and may be applied to other purposes, the utmost that can be asked for under Treaty is, that drawback should be allowed when it is *bonâ fide* put on board ship as stores. The list given by the storekeepers of Shanghai, and printed in the report inclosed by you (which I now see for the first time), is more reasonable than that which was furnished to me some time since from Canton, which contained pretensions utterly irreconcilable with the Treaty; and I shall endeavour to have the benefit of exemptions further extended than it is by present practice.

The privilege of sharing in the coasting trade, which was granted under different conditions at different ports—exemption certificates being recognized at some and not at others—is not a right which, according to my construction, can be claimed by Treaty, nor can the Chinese Government be debarred from putting it under general regulations. If Her Majesty's Government decides that my reading of the Treaty is erroneous, an arrangement more favourable to foreign shipping may be made; but unless I am entitled to demand it as of right, I think the question is settled on terms as favourable as at present can be obtained.

As your Address will bring these and other topics under the notice of Her Majesty's Government, it is unnecessary for me to discuss them further. You are sufficiently acquainted with the history of our intercourse with China to know the difficulty of preserving trade from exactions in the interior at a time when the Government is straining every nerve to provide funds for the suppression of a formidable rebellion, and when by Treaty it is debarred from the usual resources of Governments in such cases, namely, that of raising revenue by increased Customs impositions. The transit-duty clause was devised to relieve the foreign trader from arbitrary internal exactions, without imposing upon Her Majesty's Government the hopeless task of interfering between the Chinese authorities and their Chinese subjects. Unfortunately the general anarchy that prevails, and particularly the disturbed condition of the country in the neighbourhood of Shanghai, renders at present the benefit of the arrangement almost nugatory, and greatly enhances the difficulties of any one who has at one and the same moment to carry out the provisions of the Treaty, and to place the relations of the two countries on a permanent and more friendly footing. The same causes,

together with local interests, are at work in thwarting the attempts of the foreign employés to introduce a more honest and better system of administration into the Chinese Custom-house. I can speak, however, from personal knowledge as to the soundness of the advice given by Mr. Hart to the high officers of the Chinese Government at Peking, and to the perseverance with which he has urged upon them enlarged views in commercial matters.

Though I have pointed out above some of the obstacles to be encountered, I wish it to be understood that I thoroughly concur with the Memorialists in desiring to free trade from the trammels and impositions under which it labours; and in proportion as I acquire influence with this Government, it shall be made use of to that end.

I am, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

No. 5.

Mr. Bruce to Lord J. Russell.—(Received December 14.)

My Lord,

Peking, October 12, 1861.

IN compliance with the request of the Chamber of Commerce at Hong Kong, I have the honour to forward a letter to your Lordship's address from that body, relative to the Maritime Custom House in China.

I am, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure in No. 5.

Mr. Perceval to Lord J. Russell, August 26, 1861.

[See Inclosure in No. 1.]

No. 6.

Memorandum by Mr. Lay, Chinese Inspector of Customs, on the Complaints of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Chambers of Commerce.

THE papers upon which I have courteously been permitted to submit my observations are :—

1. A Memorial to Earl Russell by the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, dated 20th August, 1861.

2. A printed Pamphlet, containing Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Shanghai Chamber, and letters setting forth the cases complained of.

3. A Memorial to Earl Russell by the Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce, dated 26th August, 1861.

The chief among the cases in the printed pamphlet are embodied in the Memorials of the Chambers, and are consequently commented upon in the subjoined observations; but not to interrupt the course of these remarks with what might prove, perhaps, a perplexing reference to the details of all these cases, I have briefly analysed each, on a separate sheet, annexed to this Memorandum.

1. *Ship's Stores.*—The first complaint to which attention is drawn by the Shanghai Chamber, is the "inconsistency of practice" with respect to "ship's stores."

The old Tariff of 1843 was not sufficiently explicit in respect of duty-free articles, and hence continual disputes between the merchants and the Customs. The merchant insisted, then as he does now, that "the term 'ship's stores,' as well as the term 'household stores,' should be read in its widest sense," that is to say, he claimed exemption for every conceivable article he could call a household or a ship's store. For example, the old Tariff admitted "building materials," that is, bricks and tiles, duty free. The merchant straightway claimed exemption for entire cargoes of timber and woods, because these could be used for building purposes, and he could therefore describe them as "building materials." On the same principle, exemption has been claimed for "gypsum," because gypsum is made use of in the preparation of mortar, and comes, therefore, according to the merchant's view, under the denomination of building materials.

When the Tariff of 1858 was drawn up, pains were taken to rectify the omission in the old Tariff by adding a list, as explicit and complete as possible, of duty-free goods, for the safety of the merchant, as well as for the guidance of the Customs.

This list, while it exempted many articles chargeable in other countries with duty, of necessity included such as could not, upon any intelligible principle, be exempted.

The principle that has guided the Customs in its treatment of "ship's stores" has been this: if the stores (although of such kind as are inserted in the Tariff as subject to duty) are brought in *bond fide* for the use of a particular vessel, they are admitted free; if they are imported like other goods for sale, duty is considered due.

Mr. Bruce, in his reply to the Shanghai Chamber of the 23rd September, takes the same view. He says, "When an article does not fall exclusively within the term of 'ship's stores,' and may be applied to other purposes, the utmost that can be asked for, under Treaty, is that a drawback should be allowed them when it is *bond fide* put on board ships as stores."

Were this rule departed from, exemption would be claimed for some articles which admit of being described as "ship's stores," but which are specified in the Tariff as chargeable with duty, such as canvass, bunting, cordage, coal. It must be acknowledged that there may be some foundation for the charge of "inconsistency of practice," for the Customs have to rely entirely upon the word of the merchant, when he declares his consignment to be for the use of a particular vessel, or, as is the usual declaration, for the use of one of the docks. The stores once landed, the Customs are powerless to prevent the merchant from selling them to whom he pleases. Hence many articles may have been landed that ought to have been charged with duty.

2. *Transit Duties.*—The Shanghai Chamber complains of transit duties being claimed at Shanghai upon teas brought down from Hankow, and upon goods forwarded to that port from Shanghai.

The Chamber altogether ignores the important fact that the Yang-tze River, above Chin-kiang, was opened under special arrangements between the British and Chinese authorities, the right to navigate the river not arising in strictness until the suppression of the rebellion (*vide* Treaty, Articles IX and X). Amongst the conditions under which the river was opened was this: that all dues and duties should be collected at Shanghai or Chin-kiang, and that there should be no Customs establishment at Hankow or Kiu-kiang, the object being that the river above Chin-kiang should be treated as the inner waters of Shanghai, that vessels might have the privilege of "discharging and loading at any ports or places on the river, without being required to obtain custom-house permits" (see Provisional Regulations, Article 7). Whether the transit dues be payable at one port or at another can make no difference to the merchants, and Mr. Bruce's decision that they shall be collected henceforward at Hankow or Kiu-kiang, instead of at Shanghai or Chin-kiang, does not meet the merchants' complaint.

The Shanghai Customs called for the payment at Shanghai of the transit duty, in strict conformity with the arrangements above named.

By the fifth clause of Tariff Rule 7, "permission to export produce which cannot be proved to have paid its transit dues will be refused by the Customs until the transit dues shall have been paid." Transit duty was therefore leviable upon Messrs. Lindsay and Co.'s teas (Case 2, page 6 of the pamphlet), in the absence of evidence of payment by the native merchant.

I learn, however, from Mr. Fitzroy, the Commissioner of Customs at Shanghai, that Lindsay and Co. were never charged any duty upon their teas, in deference to the remonstrance of the Consul, and pending reference to Peking. But this fact is not stated in the Pamphlet, nor in the subsequent Memorial.

3. *Exemption Certificates.*—I must explain how it came to pass that exemption certificates—(an exemption certificate is a document from the Superintendent of Customs of a port from which goods are exported addressed to the Superintendent of Customs of a port into which they are to be imported, certifying that the goods have paid import duty, and requesting that they be admitted free of duty)—were in the first instance granted to the foreign merchant upon Chinese produce exported from Shanghai.

In 1855 trade and shipping were suffering from the presence of the rebels in the province, and the prevalence of piracy on the coast. As some relief to trade, I (at that time Inspector of Customs at Shanghai) persuaded the local authorities to grant, for the time being, exemption certificates upon Chinese as well as upon foreign goods; and the merchants of Shanghai (though not at any other port) have since enjoyed this privilege, which they were in no wise entitled to by Treaty, until its withdrawal by Prince Kung, with the approval of Mr. Bruce.

Neither in the Treaty of Nanking nor in the Treaty of Tien-tsin was any provision made for depriving the Chinese of their coasting trade, nor even for admitting foreigners to it, although the Shanghai Chamber asserts the contrary. The provisions of the Treaty affect only the direct trade between China and foreign countries. The British Government could scarcely have coerced China into granting what her own laws refused, until five years since, to every other nation.

In the imaginary case put by Adamson and Co. (Case 6, page 10 of Pamphlet), the export duty would have been chargeable at the port of export, Ningpo. The tea in question it appears, moreover, from Mr. Fitzroy, was to undergo the "firing" process at Shanghai.

As the XLVth Article of the Treaty provides "that the goods remain with their original marks unchanged," exemption from a second payment could not in strictness have been claimed in this case.

In the case of Messrs. Fletcher and Co.'s silk, brought to Shanghai from Ningpo, a second charge was avoided by the simple transhipment of the silk to another vessel bound for London.

But these were cases that admitted of—nay, demanded—reference to Peking. To suppose that the Chinese Government ever contemplated charging four duties upon silk and tea is preposterous. Such an attempt would have been simply ridiculous, and would not have been tolerated, as they know, for an instant. The truth is, that tea and silk have found their way to Ningpo quite recently, since the occupation of the country around Shanghai by the rebels. This circumstance being unrepresented to them, the Peking authorities had no means of knowing the effect their instructions would have respecting exemption certificates. As soon as they became aware of it, they at once instructed the Shanghai Superintendent to charge no duty upon tea and silk entered from Ningpo for re-exportation. And so the matter would have undoubtedly been settled, upon a simple representation of the circumstances.

But the merchants had up to this time stood in need of a "strong" case against the Customs. Here was one which would not fail to "tell" in England. So capital an opportunity was not to be foregone, although they well knew that it was, I repeat, preposterous to suppose that Mr. Bruce would allow the Chinese, even if they had deliberately designed it, to impose more than one export duty upon tea and silk, at an open port too, where their action could be controlled. It is remarkable that Messrs. Fletcher and Co. (Case 7), Messrs. Adamson and Co. (Case 6), and the Shanghai Chamber, take for granted that the Chinese Government is bound to see that the state of anarchy which at present renders the ordinary routes of commerce unavailable, shall not have any injurious effect on foreign trade with China—a doctrine new in Europe.

4. *Drawbacks.*—As to drawbacks, the facts are as follows:—In consequence of my representations in 1856, the Shanghai authorities consented to give drawbacks (duty-receipts that may be tendered in payment of import or export duties) upon goods found unsaleable, and re-exported to a foreign country.

To this privilege merchants were not entitled by the Treaty of Nanking, but it was secured by the Treaty of Tien-tsin. Merchants want now to have the privilege extended to goods, native as well as foreign, re-exported to a Chinese port. I think the Chinese Government would have reasonable grounds of objection to such a concession. It could scarcely afford to part with the only check it has upon clandestine trade, at non-Treaty ports, and along the coast, which it finds difficult enough even now to prevent.

5. *Notice of Alterations in Regulations.*—The Shanghai Chamber complains, by implication, that changes in the Custom-house regulations have been made, without having been first submitted to the British authorities and without timely notice. No such changes have ever been made without having been so submitted.

In the changes referred to by Mr. Consul Medhurst, in his letter to Messrs. Jarvie, Thorburn, and Co. (see Case 4 submitted by the Shanghai Chamber), Mr. Medhurst had been fully informed, and had actually notified the change on the 2nd of May. The withdrawal of exemption certificates, and the regulations as to transit-dues, had been agreed upon between Mr. Bruce and Prince Kung, through the medium of Mr. Hart, now acting as Inspector-General of Chinese Customs. The duty of notifying the foreign community rests with the Consuls; the right of the Chinese to do this has been denied by the British authorities, and they have never so addressed the foreign merchants except in two or three instances, and those not recent.

6. *Custom-House Reform.*—The Hong Kong Chamber states:—"There are many points on which Custom-house reform might be judiciously applied with the greatest advantage to trade, but with which it is unnecessary to trouble your Lordship, inasmuch as they rather constitute matters of local arrangement easily remediable, were Her Majesty's Representatives in China to afford that co-operation to the mercantile community which might not unreasonably be looked for." This is a complaint against Her Majesty's Representative in China, and, as now appears, a perfectly groundless one, as in the causes of complaint just noticed. Mr. Bruce has actually decided against the view taken by the Customs in the matter of transit-dues, and in favour of the legality of their action in the matter of exemption certificates and ships' stores, and has suggested arrangements by

which at the present moment the business is probably satisfactorily carried out. It would seem, therefore, that the matters complained of are among those with which it was unnecessary to trouble the Foreign Office, as there is little doubt that reforms might be introduced and grievances removed, were the merchants frankly to avail themselves of the facilities given by the foreign Inspectorate.

7. *Alleged irresponsibility of Customs Officers.*—The Hong Kong Chamber directly, and the Shanghai Chamber by implication, state that the foreign employés have the power of confiscation and personal irresponsibility.

It is hardly necessary to say that they have no power of confiscation; they can merely advise the Chinese authorities to confiscate. As to their personal irresponsibility for acts done as Chinese Custom-house officers, when such acts are not disavowed by the Chinese Government, I do not apprehend that there can be much doubt according to English law; but the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown on the point would be satisfactory.

8. *General remarks.*—Having now noticed in a general manner the special causes of complaint of the two Chambers, I trust that I shall not be thought trespassing upon his Lordship's time if I submit here a few remarks upon the "Custom-house system," in the course of which I shall notice the more general statements and complaints of the Chambers.

9. *The System.*—The system of a foreign Inspectorate was introduced at Shanghai in 1854. The Chinese authorities had proved themselves too weak to enforce payment of duties from all alike, and while all were enabled to smuggle, some of the more wealthy and more influential (the then Chinese Superintendent of Customs was himself, it is said, in partnership with a leading English and a leading American firm) were enabled to smuggle to a greater extent than others. This was ruinous to the less wealthy, but more numerous, of the community, who cried out at the inequality by which they suffered, and professed their readiness to pay the full amount of duty, provided that wealthy as well as poor paid alike. A conference was held between the Treaty Consuls and the Chinese Superintendent, and it was agreed that the latter should have the assistance of three Europeans, to secure an honest and efficient Custom-house administration.

Each Consul nominated a person. Mr. Wade, then Vice-Consul, was the British Consul's nominée. Mr. Carr, Secretary to United States' Legation, was the American Consul's nominée. Mr. Smith, French Consular Interpreter, was the French Consul's nominée.

Mr. Wade resigned in 1855, and was succeeded by myself. I was then holding the appointment of Vice-Consul and Interpreter at Shanghai. Upon my appointment, the British Consul ceased to nominate. The United States' Consular Bill of 1856 prohibiting United States' Ministers and Consuls from recommending any citizen for employment in the service of any foreign Government, the American authorities ceased in like manner to nominate.

The Chinese Government then placed the entire control of the Customs in my hands, entrusting me with the selection of all Europeans for the service, and engaging not to remove any without my sanction.

10. *Personnel of Customs Establishment.*—As the Hong Kong Chamber has classed the individuals in this service with "lawless foreigners" whose "violence will be more pernicious than lawless acts of isolated criminals," I will give the name of the officer in charge at each port, and the position he occupied prior to his joining the Customs.

Shanghai.—Mr. H. Tudor Davies (English), late Chief Magistrate at Hong Kong, absent on sick leave, whose place is supplied by Mr. G. H. Fitzroy, late Attaché to Lord Elgin.

Ningpo.—M. Giguel (French), late Interpreter to Canton Commissioners.

Foo-chow.—M. Meritens (French), late Interpreter to Baron Gros.

Amoy.—Mr. Ward (American), late Secretary to the United States' Legation.

Swatow.—Mr. Wilzer (German), late Mercantile Assistant.

Canton.—Mr. Glover (American), late United States' Vice-Consul at Shanghai.

Chin-kiang.—Mr. Leonard (English), late Mercantile Assistant in the firm of Dent and Company.

Tien-tsin.—M. Kleczkowski (French), Major on half-pay.

Mr. Hart, who was an Interpreter in the Consular Service, acts during my absence as Inspector-General.

The mention of the above names is sufficient, I am sure, to repel the absurd insinuations, (which no attempt whatever is made to substantiate) of the Chamber, and stamp them as discreditable to it.

From 1854 up to the present time the merchants have been free in their abuse and aud in their complaints of "outrages" and "gross injustice," but, in no case that I am aware of, have they adduced a single fact in support of their allegations. They have not concealed their abhorrence of the institution, and I do not think, therefore, they would have

concealed facts had they any to make use of. Their hope has been, by vague, high-sounding complaints, incessantly repeated, gradually to enlist the sympathy of the public of England, and secure its support of their representations against the "system."

11. *Disfavour of Merchants explained.*—Some of the reasons why the system is regarded with such disfavour may not be out of place here. At the outset, it was unfortunately brought into collision with the leading firms. Before its existence there was no system at all. Merchants could pay little or no duties, and could make speedy fortunes. From the corrupt and weak Chinese officials anything could be extorted, by bribery or by bullying. Merchants could smuggle a consignment of cotton goods into port, fill the cases with tea in place of the cotton goods, ship these as cotton goods re-exported, and obtain a drawback for the import duty on the cotton goods that had never been paid. The door open to such doings, the system closed. The merchant prince found himself on the same footing with the storekeeper. He was required to apply for a permit to land and ship his goods, and to give the correct weight of his tea and his silk, under penalty of the forfeiture laid down in the Treaty. He who had had Admirals and Ambassadors as guests in his house, who asked his opinion and sometimes acted upon it; he who had been in the habit of denouncing Ministers and Consuls when they crossed his path, naturally chafed at having to conform to any rules or regulations whatever. His steamer could no longer load and discharge at any point along the coast without his incurring the risk of being called to account for his infraction of the Treaty. The notion of having to forego large profits and the luxury of doing whatever seemed good in his eyes, was one which he could scarcely be expected to bear with equanimity or without a struggle. He would not conform to the Chinese Custom-house, forgetting that those rules simply embodied the provisions of the Treaty. But he had not been accustomed to pay any heed to them, and he did not choose to do so now. And he acted upon this determination. When honest, he declined to conform to the regulations; when dishonest, he essayed attempts, successful in former times, to defraud, relying upon his influence at home and abroad to deter the British Officers of Customs from making him an open enemy. Disappointment at the result may account for the "strong language" employed by the Hong Kong Chamber, the Chairman of which is the head of Jardine, Matheson and Co., which firm has been once fined, and whose vessel has been recently seized while smuggling between Shanghai and Chin-kiang.

That I may not lay myself open to the charges I have made against the Chambers of want of facts, I will cite a few cases from the Customs' Records in support of my statement.

12. *Instances of Smuggling.—Case of the "Spec."*—The "Spec" was a Tahitian brig sailing under French colours. The 13th Article of the General Regulations of Trade of 1843 required a permit to be taken out by the captain under 500 dollars penalty. The 20th Article provides for the confiscation of the vessel. The VIIIth Article of the French Treaty of 1844* provides for the confiscation of a vessel smuggling. The Vth Article of the American Treaty of 1844 allows American merchants to trade in any merchandize the import or export of which is not interdicted by Chinese law. The export of rice is expressly prohibited (*vide* communication to Treaty Consuls by Chaou, 24th May, 1855). In September 1857, the American firm Russell and Co. shipped privately 1,000 bags of rice without a permit, which had been twice refused on application. The Custom-house authorities seized a boat containing 400 bags alongside the brig. So some members of the firm, acting under the sanction of the French Consul, shipped, *vi et armis*, two more boat-loads, and repelled with force the Custom-house officers who were sent to protest. The vessel ultimately sailed without a permit, and with its full cargo, never having paid a cash of duty.

Case of the "Salacia."—153 cases of dyed cottons, valued at 18,110 dollars, were imported by Messrs. Gilman and Co. on the 15th December, 1855. The application to land as above was made. The goods were "suspect," and, as landed, lodged in the Custom-house. Being found to contain chintz, prints, and white figured cottons, paying two mace a piece, while dyed cottons only pay 5 per cent. *ad valorem*, the Custom-house would have been defrauded of 250*l*. This firm was fined 500 taels, and the goods were released.

Case of the "Paoushun," July 1855.—This was a case in which the vessel was entered in ballast, when she had on board goods to the value of 2,150 dollars. They were seized, and Messrs. Dent, Beale, and Co. paid 1,000 taels, viz., 500 for presenting a false manifest, and 500 for discharging without a permit.

Case of the "Wynand," April 1855.—She was found smuggling rice outside the port, was seized by the Chinese revenue cruiser, and her cargo confiscated, but the ship was released. She belonged to Dent, Beale, and Co. Permits to export rice had been constantly refused.

* The old Treaties were in force at this period.

Case of the "Unicorn," May 1855.—Smuggled 40 bags of saltpetre, not entered in the manifest. The owners, Angier and Co., were fined 500 dollars.

Case of the "Emily Annina."—Application was made by Lindsay and Co. to ship 60 hogsheads of coal (on which no duty was due). Suspected and seized: the barrels were found to contain 1000*l.* worth of copper cash, dexterously concealed by the coal above and below. The export of cash is altogether prohibited, and a notice to this effect had been published by Mr. Alcock in 1848, by direction of Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary, Sir George Bonham. The whole was confiscated. Underneath the coal casks were discovered 50 treasure boxes, marked "B. R. & Co.," in the hold of the ship. These boxes were described in the Shipping Order as "merchandise," which was signed by Blenkin, Rawson, and Co., and were also seized and confiscated.

Case of the "Hellespont."—This vessel, belonging to Jardine, Matheson, and Co., transhipped her entire cargo twelve miles from the anchorage for loading and discharging, and then sailed out of port. The Treaty penalty of 500 dollars was levied. The cargo, value 5,000*l.*, which might have been confiscated wholly, was released.

Case of the "Rose."—This vessel belonged to Jardine, Matheson, and Co.; has been recently seized while engaged in smuggling on the Yang-tze, between Chin-kiang and Shanghai. Mr. Whittall, the head of Jardine, Matheson, and Co., had been previously warned by the Commissioners of Customs of the illegal nature of the "Rose's" proceedings.

13. *Transaction of business. Inattention of Merchants to common Rules.*—Some remarks are made by both Chambers upon the dispatch of business. It is to be regretted that they have not specified, as they might, the nature of the "additional trouble" complained of, nor shown in what respect the office routine differs from that followed in all public offices. I have examined the books and forms of the London and Liverpool Custom-houses, and I have no hesitation in saying that the merchant in China has not a tenth of the trouble the London or Liverpool merchant has. I should be glad to have the books of the Shanghai Custom-house examined. They would show that the merchants constantly send in manifests made out after the following fashion: "Name of vessel," "(5550) pkgs." The different consignees not being named, nor the contents of the packages given; in fact, without any particulars. Article XXXVII of the Treaty provides "that the manifest shall contain a full and true account of the particulars of the cargo on board." And each firm is supplied with printed forms of Manifests, which the merchant has simply to fill up with the "marks and numbers," "description of goods," and "weight" or "value," as the case may be.

If business has at any time been delayed, it has been the merchant's own fault, as the books, if referred to, would prove. I can testify, moreover, to the fact that manifests made out in the way above described have been again and again accepted, upon the promise of a proper manifest next time, thus entailing upon the office a vast amount of extra work; the making out, in fact, a manifest for the merchant. Often applications to land or ship goods are without some indispensable particulars, such, for instance, as the weight or value. This is asked for. The answer not unfrequently is, "not ascertained." Where the weight or value is not ascertained, the merchant should give "estimated weight." He is therefore asked for the "estimated weight." The answer sometimes is, the Customs can estimate it for themselves; the merchant is not disposed to give it.

I have myself again and again directed permits to be given in cases of this kind, although the merchant has flatly refused to supply the information absolutely necessary to the office.

Again, when the "system" was extended to Canton, the merchants there seemed determined to make business as impracticable as possible. They generally sent to the office the least informed of their employés, a coolie, or probably a boatwoman, with a scrap of paper on which the thing wanted was hinted at in an illegible scrawl. The bearer when asked some questions for the purpose of elucidating his wants was totally unable to give any account of himself, or what he had come about, more than that his master was named so and so. A great many of the firms were never heard of by the Customs at all; they would not recognize the office, and did their business through Chinese, and under Chinese name.

The office hours at Shanghai are from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. At Canton where there are river steamers plying, the office is open from sunrise to sunset.

13. *Alleged instances of ill-will to "system" by Chinese community without foundation.*—According to the Hong Kong Chamber, "there can be little doubt that it [the system] is most obnoxious to the [Chinese] trading classes high and low, and at some of the ports, Canton and Swatow, very unmistakeable instances of this ill-will have been shown." I am sorry to contradict the Chamber, but this is quite untrue. On the contrary, the native merchants have shown themselves favourable towards it. When, upon the extension of

the "system" to Canton, the native vessels engaged in the coasting trade between Canton, Swatow, Hong Kong, and Macao, were directed to pay duty thenceforward at the foreign Custom-house according to the foreign Tariff—an arrangement which was effected by my desire to prevent the stricter levy of duties upon vessels under foreign flags, placing them at a disadvantage—the Chinese trading expressed satisfaction at the change, as they preferred, they said, to pay a fixed amount and have certain despatch, to being subjected at their own Custom-house to uncertain charges and uncertain despatch.

Another case.—A certain class of Chinese boats trading between Shanghai and Ningpo have been allowed to transact their business at the foreign Custom-house, and the office is continually importuned by the owners of Chinese boats of other classes to allow them the same privilege, as they much prefer our treatment to that which they meet with at their own Custom-house.

But I can give an instance of "unmistakeable ill-will," which occurred when I was at Swatow, on the part of the master, Saunders by name, of an English vessel, who deliberately fired into a Chinese guard-boat that had been stationed within hail of his vessel to prevent the smuggling of some opium that was on board. One man was shot dead, and three others were wounded. This took place at 10 o'clock at night. The next morning Saunders called at the Custom-house, and expressed his hope in my presence that he had killed some one, declaring that he would repeat the dose if he were again interfered with.

15. *Preventive force at Canton.*—The Hong Kong Chamber calls the preventive force at Canton, which consists of a small American river-steamer, not adapted for fighting purposes, carrying one gun, a 12-pounder, and some Chinese boats manned by Chinese, "an illegal and dangerous practice;" "an organized plan of violence which will be infinitely more pernicious than any lawless acts of isolated criminals in producing detestation of the foreign name and hostility to the innocent fellow-countrymen of these individuals." In the collection of customs duties at Canton, the Chinese have two serious obstacles to contend with, namely, the free ports of Macao and Hong Kong; and considerable difficulty has been experienced in the prevention of smuggling of tea and silk by the many channels of communication from Canton to those places. The little steamer above referred to, the "Cumfa," has been kept cruising to and fro on the rivers, and has made several seizures, both of silk and tea. On one occasion, she surprised a Portuguese steamer taking in silk in the dead of the night, on which occasion neither gun nor pistol were fired. The Cantonese are proverbially a bold race, and the smugglers are strong enough to defy the Government. The "Cumfa" has more than once been waylaid (as will be remembered were our own river-steamers during the troubles of 1856), and has narrowly escaped their fate. On a recent occasion she was attacked by some heavily armed snake-boats and was obliged to beat a retreat, with the loss of two men killed and two wounded. This is the only case that I am aware of, in which lives have been lost, and this has been on our own side.

16. *Merchants at Canton smuggle through Natives.*—The foreign merchant at Canton does not usually smuggle himself; he employs the agency of the Cantonese, who are much more daring than the Northern Chinese. The authorities are powerless to deal with the native smugglers, who have fleets of vessels at their disposal, each of which carries from 70 to 100 men, well-equipped with guns of heavy calibre (procured at Hong Kong, whence pirates and smugglers obtain supplies of the best guns and powder). The Chamber, therefore, wishes the repression of smuggling to be left to the Chinese authorities, because they are impotent; and it goes on to say that, "so far as it is aware, there is no case on record where forcible resistance has been offered by foreigners to a Custom-house seizure." I am afraid the Custom-house records would show that forcible resistance has been repeatedly offered by foreigners. The tidewaiters have again and again been ordered out of ships under a volley of abusive epithets. The tidewaiters had the strictest orders not to resist force by force, and the most vigilant watchfulness on the part of the superior officers has alone prevented the occurrence of most serious collisions. Had the Custom-house been otherwise than passive, blood must have frequently been shed.

17. *Trade Returns show that the system has not injured Trade.*—The Hong Kong Chamber asserts that the system has "injured seriously the commercial relations of foreigners, and more especially of British subjects." This, if true, is surely capable of proof. The Trade Returns of Shanghai, where the system has been in operation for seven years, show that the trade, so far from falling off, has wonderfully increased, despite the disadvantages it has had to contend with from the devastation by the Tae-pings of the province in which Shanghai is situated; Soo-chow, of which Shanghai is the mere shipping port, being at the present moment in the hands of the rebels.

With regard to the "very considerable impediments to a free trade which have lately been experienced at the new port of Tien-tsin," I will quote from a letter to my address

from Mr. Hart of the 8th July last :—"Tien-tsin has exceeded all expectations ; there are thirty-nine ships at Takoo now, and since the 1st May sixty-three have entered the port ; full cargoes in, but, unfortunately, no exports. Opium is unsaleable to a great extent, being driven out of the market by the native drug. Trade at the present is rather at a standstill, owing, some say, to local squeezes (of which I cannot get hold of a single authenticated or specific case), but, in my opinion, to the excessive prices that ruled at first, and to the subsequent arrival of such large quantities of goods. People at first bought dearly ; then came lots of goods, with the prices current at other ports ; the first buyers feared to make more purchases before disposing of their first stocks, so trade now languishes."

18. *Procedure in cases of Fine and Confiscation.*—Lastly, with respect to the statement that "certain foreigners, aided by personal irresponsibility, and an almost unfettered exercise of the power of confiscation, have established a control of a most despotic nature over the details of foreign trade." I may observe that the Chinese Superintendent of Customs, with or without the advice of the foreign Commissioner, can in no case overstep the limits assigned to his action by the Treaties, without being forthwith called to account by the Consul, upon the complaint of the merchant aggrieved. The Chamber should have pointed out the infringements of Treaty that have been committed, but about this the Chamber is, probably, indifferent. Its object is to have "the British Customs officers made amenable to a Consular Court for damages at the instance of any suitor who may prosecute them for injury sustained." This potent instrument attained, the merchants would desire nothing more. With the power to cite at all times before the Supreme Court of Hong Kong the British Customs officers, who would have there to satisfy a jury of merchants all interested in paying no duties at all, that they had not "exceeded their legitimate powers," or else pay the damages fixed by such jury, they judge rightly that they would soon make it impossible for British subjects to serve the Chinese Government in an executive capacity. No wonder, then, that the Hong Kong Chamber should be tempted to employ strong language against the "system," if greater weight should be thereby attached to the remedy it proposes.

With reference to the practice of the Customs in cases of fine and confiscation, dwelt upon by the Shanghai Chamber, the precise method of dealing with infringements of Treaty is laid down, and the action of the Chinese Government is specifically limited to certain forfeitures, leaving the merchant, if dissatisfied with the decision of the Chinese Superintendent, to seek the "political," not "judicial," action of his Consul, and of his Minister if necessary. It would be hardly fair to expect that the Chinese Government should submit its right to fines and confiscation, secured to it by Treaties, to the judicial discussion and decision of any foreign Court ; still less that it would allow merchants, who are themselves daily endeavouring to evade the Chinese revenue laws, to have any voice in such discussion and decision, as the assessors of their Consul. As stated by the Shanghai Chamber, the Chinese Government has granted "extritoriality" as regards persons to British subjects, but it has not surrendered its right to "adjudicate" upon infractions of its own revenue laws. The Chinese Government has never asserted that "the Customs authorities can either fine a British ship or confiscate British property without the active intervention of the British Consul ;" but it does maintain that the British Consul can only intervene "politically" and not "judicially," and that the Chinese Government is no more obliged to resort to a British Court to enforce fines or confiscations for a breach of its revenue laws where a British subject is concerned, than it is to an American or French Court where an American or French subject is concerned. The VIIth Article of the French Treaty, to the benefit of which we are entitled, under the most-favoured-nation clause, after declaring that French subjects may trade at the open ports, and pass freely from one port to another furnished with passports, but forbidding their engaging in clandestine trade under the penalty of confiscation of vessels and merchandize, says :—"And this confiscation shall belong to the Chinese Government, who, however, shall before the seizure and confiscation are legally declared, give notice of it to the French Consul at the nearest port." In such cases, therefore, the Chinese authorities are bound to give formal notice to the Consul of the party concerned.

The circumstances under which a merchant renders himself liable to the Treaty penalties are the following :—

1. If he lands or ships, or tranships, cargo without a permit, in which case the burden of proof, that is, the production of the permit, devolves upon him.

2. If the master neglects to report his vessel within forty-eight hours after arrival. As the Consul himself reports the vessel to the Customs, he has it in his power to ascertain whether the master has or has not exceeded the time allotted.

3. A vessel trading illegally along the coast, or at a non-Treaty port.

The question in each case is narrowed to a fact susceptible of easy proof or disproof, and respecting which there is no room for discussion and debate. If the complainant did not land or ship his goods without a permit, he can produce the permit : whether or not he exceeded the period of forty-eight hours within which he should have reported his ship through the Consul, the Consulate records can immediately determine. His trading at a non-Treaty port is proved by the seizure of the ship *in flagrante delicto*, and also of the goods landed which he had entered for a regular port in the outward manifest signed by himself at his last port of clearance.

Any reasons that the parties concerned have to put in bar can be as well communicated in writing through the Consul, as *visd voce* before a Court, without possible detriment to the case. The Consul having obtained from the Chinese authorities their reply, setting forth the circumstances upon which their decision has been formed, informs the merchant, who can if dissatisfied appeal to his Minister for redress, and at the same time, if so minded, publish the correspondence.

The Chambers pretend they cannot get a fair hearing, but this is mere pretence and nothing more : and they are unable to adduce a single case in support of this statement, or to show that merchants have been wrongly fined. Their object is, I repeat, to get British Customs officers made amenable to a British Court. They would then make it impossible for British subjects to serve the Chinese Government in an executive capacity. They forget that the Chinese would in that event obtain the assistance of Americans and Frenchmen, and other foreigners, when they might perhaps have occasion to complain with truth of "arbitrary tendencies" and "infractions of Treaties." The matter, however, of jurisdiction in cases of fine or confiscation is undoubtedly one requiring authoritative decision, and the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown would, no doubt, lead to an early settlement of the question.

19. *Important discrepancy between Statements of Shanghai and Hong Kong Chambers.*—In conclusion I would draw his Lordship's attention to the last paragraph of a letter to Mr. Bruce from the Chairman of the Shanghai Chamber, of the 26th August, inclosing the Memorial under consideration for transmission to the Foreign Office.

Mr. Antrobus says, "I cannot help remarking that, whilst it admitted that the orders in the late instance complained of came direct from Peking, and therefore allowed of little modification by the local authorities of Shanghai, it is at the same time much to be regretted that there appears to be a growing tendency on the part of the foreign Inspectors of Customs to retire from that position of counsellors and advisers of the native local authorities, in which, by a sound interpretation of Treaty clauses and practical knowledge of foreign habits and customs, they may be most useful, and to subside into mere silent dependents of the Superintendents of Customs. It is not improbable that the reluctance to assume an active interposition between the Chinese authorities on the one hand, and foreign merchants on the other, may be the result of the irksomeness and distasteful character of such an occupation ; but it is equally undoubted that if the exercise of such an influence as that alluded to be discontinued, one of the most effective arguments in favour of a foreign Inspectorate, and one which has hitherto, to a great extent, been carried into practice, is at once removed."

His Lordship will observe that while one Chamber acknowledges the good hitherto effected through the advice given to the Chinese authorities by their foreign assistants, the Hong Kong Chamber declares that "the faithlessness of the Chinese, aided by the trained astuteness of the foreigners whom they employ, has endeavoured to detect flaws in the language of the Treaty, and to apply their assumed discoveries to the detriment of British interests."

The Chambers cannot both be right, it is clear.

The British merchants seem lately to have contracted the notion that the system of a foreign Inspectorate is intended simply to enforce regulations and restraint against them. They are wrong ; it is intended to be, and is, more effectual in restraining the Chinese from infractions of the laws of honesty and of Treaties ; and, if I may be allowed to hint at its political bearings, I should characterize it as the most potent engine for introducing to the minds of the Chinese governing classes western—not to say English—ideas and practices, political and moral, as well as commercial. Similar views with respect to Turkey may possibly have prompted Sir Henry Bulwer to recommend the employment of competent Europeans in the several administrative departments of that Government.

We desire the most searching inquiry, and I shall be only too happy at all times to furnish explanations in answer to any questions that may be addressed to me.

(Signed) H. N. LAY.

London, January 11, 1862.

Notes upon the Cases in the Pamphlet of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce.

Case 1, Page 5 of Pamphlet.—Transit duty was charged upon native cotton exported to a Chinese port.

I do not think that transit duty was leviable, provided the Customs had satisfactory evidence that the cotton was *bonâ fide* Shanghai cotton.

Case 2, Page 6.—Transit duty was claimed upon tea brought down to Shanghai from Hankow, the condition under which that port was opened being that the transit duties upon goods imported or exported should be collected at Shanghai or Chin-kiang, in accordance with Mr. Bruce's despatch of 21st November, 1860, to Prince Kung, which says:—"All duties leviable under the new Tariff upon import or export cargoes on board British vessels proceeding up or down the river, will be payable at Shanghai or Chin-kiang-foo, and the Customs authorities will take such steps as seem to them necessary for the enforcement of this rule;" and in conformity, moreover, with the arrangements concluded by the Earl of Elgin at Shanghai. The first Article of the "Provisional Regulations for British Trade" in the Yang-tze River provides that vessels shall be authorized to proceed to Hankow under passes to "be issued by the Shanghai Customs, and only by the Customs at that port," "as soon as the Customs are satisfied that all the dues and duties upon the vessel and her cargo have been paid."

This was understood to mean transit duty, as well as import or export duty, it being at the same time arranged that Hankow and Kiu-kiang were not to be treated as open ports, and there was to be no Custom-house establishment at either place.

But Lindsay and Co., Mr. Fitzroy informs me, were not charged the transit duty after all; for this reason, I presume,—that they eventually tendered the evidence required by Tariff Rule 7, of payment by the native merchant.

This fact is not, however, stated in the pamphlet, nor in the memorial of the Chamber to Earl Russell.

Mr. Bruce has since decided that transit duties are to be levied at Hankow, unless the native merchant shall have already paid them.

Case 3, Page 7.—The "Europe rope," if imported like other merchandize for sale, was chargeable with duty.

Case 4, Page 7.—The native wool shipped to England was chargeable with transit duty.

The native cotton shipped to Foo-chow, if *bonâ fide* Shanghai cotton, was not chargeable with transit duty. The Shantung pongees shipped to Amoy were not chargeable with transit duty, and Mr. Fitzroy, in his letter (page 9) to Messrs. Jarvie, Thorburn, and Co., accordingly informs them that he has applied for a drawback for the amount of "transit dues claimed in error."

When Mr. Medhurst answered (page 8) Messrs. Jarvie, Thorburn and Co. with respect to the wool, that he had protested against the levy of transit duties "without a reasonable notice of the intended innovation," he seems to have altogether forgotten that he had on the 2nd May issued the subjoined circular,* actually notifying to the community the rules under which transit duties were leviable.

Case 5, Page 10.—"Inconsistency of practice" in respect to "ships' stores" is complained of. The list of duty-free goods is liberal, and exempts many articles chargeable with duty in other countries. Ships' stores entitled to exemption are held to mean

* *Notification.*

British Consulate, Shanghai, May 2, 1861.

The subjoined is a translation of two Rules for the levy of transit duties which have been communicated to the Undersigned by the Superintendent of Customs, for the information and guidance of British subjects.

(Signed) W. H. MEDHURST, *Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.*

"Transit Duty Regulations.

"1. *In the case of Imports.*—Import duties having first been paid, and notice being given at the Custom-house of the nature and quantity of the goods, the ship from which they have been landed, and the place inland to which they are bound, with all other necessary particulars, the Collector of Customs will, on due inspection made, issue a Transit Duties Memorandum. This must be handed in at the Government bank, and half maritime duties being paid, the bank receipt will, on production at the Custom-house, be exchanged for a Transit Duties Certificate. This must be produced at the North or South Barrier, and the goods will then be allowed to pass into the interior. Should the goods not correspond with the certificate, or should goods arrive at the barriers unprovided with certificates, they will be confiscated.

"2. *In the case of Exports.*—On the arrival of the produce at the North or South Barrier, notice must be given at the Custom-house at Shanghai, and transit duties paid, in the manner laid down with regard to imports: the Collector of Customs will then issue a Certificate, which will be exchanged at the Barrier for a Memorandum, and the goods passed. This Memorandum must be handed in when the goods are reported for exportation, as transit duties will be levied on all produce unprovided with these papers before permission is granted to export it."

articles imported for the use of a particular vessel, and not to apply to stores imported, like other goods, for sale.

Case 6, Page 10.—Tea exported *via* Ningpo was chargeable with the export duty at the port of exportation.

It appears, moreover, from Mr. Fitzroy, that the tea in question was to be “fired” at Shanghai. The XLVth Article of the Treaty providing that “the goods remain with their original marks unchanged,” exemption from a second payment could not in this case have been claimed.

Case 7, Page 12.—Tea brought from Hankow was chargeable with transit duty in the absence of proof of its payment by the native merchant.

Silk brought from Ningpo. Under the instructions from Peking, sanctioned by Mr. Bruce, duty was due upon the silk in question; but this was a case that admitted of reference to Peking. Fletcher and Co. avoided the claim by transshipping their silk into a vessel bound for London. In both cases the merchants had simply to send their vessels to load at Ningpo, as they habitually do to Foo-chow, to avoid any claim for more than a single payment of duty, pending reference to Peking.

The Chinese Government has since agreed to admit tea and silk imported from Ningpo for re-exportation to a foreign country, free of duty, if they are so entered when landed.

Case 8, page 13.—Native cotton shipped to Amoy. Exemption certificate was refused under orders from Peking, sanctioned by Mr. Bruce.

Case 8, page 14.—Bunting and canvas are specified in the Tariff as subject to duty, and could not, therefore, be exempted,

Rope, tar, and such articles, if landed for sale, like other goods, are chargeable with duty.

Case 10, page 14.—Shirtings imported and sent up to Hankow. Transit duty was chargeable, in accordance with the terms of Mr. Bruce’s despatch to Prince Kung already referred to.

It appears, however, that the duty was refunded (Mr. Fitzroy does not explain why). But this fact is not stated in the pamphlet, nor in the Memorial to Earl Russell.

Case 11, page 15.—Similar to Case 10. T-cloths imported and sent up to Hankow were charged with transit-duty; but from Mr. Fitzroy’s letter to Smith, Kennedy, and Co. of the 25th July (page 15), it is to be inferred that the duty was, as in the preceding case, refunded.

With regard to the Rules issued by the Chinese authorities (see page 15), I learn from Mr. Fitzroy that, in deference to Mr. Medhurst’s remonstrance, these were never enforced: a fact that should have been stated in the Memorial to Earl Russell.

(Signed) H. N. LAY.

London, January 11, 1862.

No. 7.

Mr. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received January 22, 1862.)

(Extract.)

Peking, November 10, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a further letter from the Chamber of Commerce at Shanghai.

It advocates exclusive jurisdiction being lodged in the Consuls to decide all questions of confiscation, as fine for breach of Custom-house Regulations.

My view is that, whether such an arrangement be desirable or not, it could only be carried out by consent of the Chinese Government; and I have now before me a proof that they are not willing to submit their rights to Consular decision, as I have a letter from the Prince of Kung calling upon me for the confiscation of a lugger engaged in trade at an unauthorized port, the case having been tried before the Consul at Shanghai, and having been decided in favour of the vessel. I cannot plead the decision of the Consul as conclusive on the merits, the vessel being claimed for breach of Treaty, and I shall have to decide myself whether a breach of Treaty has been committed or not.

I apprehend the Memorialists have mistaken the views of the American Minister. Mr. Ward held, in accordance with the opinion of the Attorney-General (formerly United States’ Minister in China), Mr. Cushing, that the American Consular Courts could not entertain questions involving the rights under Treaty of the Chinese Government. His instructions, no doubt, directed the United States’ Consul to protest against any confisca-

tion or fine which he might consider unjust. All Consuls have the same duty to perform, but the right of protesting in such a case against the action of Chinese authorities is a very different thing from the right to decide judicially on the propriety of the act.

As to coasting trade in Chinese produce, the subject was not dealt with by the Treaty of Tien-tsin, on the ground that it was not a right so recognized by international practice in Europe, as to justify us in imposing it by force; it has never been allowed at all the ports, and I still think that it is a considerable point gained to have succeeded in obtaining a sanction for it on the terms acceded to. Indeed, I could not effect more, and the choice was between that arrangement and the imposition of full Tariff duties, both at the port of shipment and the port of discharge. I have provided, I hope, in a manner as little onerous as possible by a system of drawbacks, for the recovery of the duty due at the port of discharge, in favour of produce to be shipped for foreign ports.

There is considerable difficulty in dealing with the question of ships' stores. The construction put upon it by the Chamber of Commerce includes all articles that may be required in the building or repairing of ships, and considerable laxity has existed in this respect at some of the ports. The regulation, after specifying various articles for the personal use of foreigners, introduces "household stores" and then "ships' stores;" and looking to the context of the instrument, I should say it refers exclusively to stores consumed on board ship, and does not include articles destined for repairing ships in docks at all. Some articles, such as rope, canvass, paint, &c., may be included under this head, which are not admitted at present; but the whole system is liable to great abuse, and tends to multiply formalities, and it is to be regretted that so general and indefinite a term was employed.

Inclosure 1 in No. 7.

Mr. Antrobus to Mr. Bruce.

*British Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai,
October 19, 1861.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd September replying to a communication from the Chamber of the 26th August, in which it transmitted to you a copy of an Address to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on the subject of the Imperial Maritime Customs, and solicited your concurrence and support for the views it therein advocated.

The Chamber begs to thank your Excellency for the prompt manner in which you have acceded to several of the points on which it has laid so much stress, and especially for enforcing the proper interpretation of the Treaty in respect to transit duties. The Chamber is also glad to learn that it is your intention to procure a further extension of the application of the duty-free clause to ships' stores, the reservation which you deem appropriate on this point in the case of certain articles specially named in the Tariff as subject to duty being, in the opinion of the Chamber, perfectly reasonable; whilst, at the same time, it is fully impressed with the belief that but very slight quantities of the articles in question go into consumption for any other purposes than those of foreign shipping.

It is further a source of gratification to the Chamber to find that you concur in the expediency of some change in the jurisdiction applied to Custom-house cases, and that you approve of the creation of such a Joint Tribunal as is advocated by this body, presuming always that it has been first considered impracticable to have these cases judicially decided in the Consular Courts. With regard to any further suggestions than those already offered that foreign and native authorities should act in concert, in equal authority, and always in open Court, I am not aware that this Chamber can give any further assistance, as, beyond those leading principles above-named, everything else would appear to consist of mere matters of detail, which your Excellency's official subordinates would be more competent to arrange and define, so as to create a Tribunal satisfactory and fair to both parties. The Chamber would merely throw out one suggestion, which originated, I believe, with Her Majesty's late Consul at this port, Mr. T. T. Meadows, that some special building should be selected at each port where, in every case, such Custom-house inquiries should be publicly held.

I am, however, requested once more to urge, on the part of this Chamber, that the course, in its opinion, most conducive to speedy and impartial justice would be that all

Custom-house cases should be decided in the Consular Court by the appearance of the Custom-house authorities as plaintiffs against the party accused, a position which they have already in several instances voluntarily assumed : and I would adduce as the main argument in support of this proposal the fact that a Consul is, in Custom-house as in all other criminal or civil cases already dependent upon his sole decision, a perfectly disinterested person whose only desire can be to see justice rendered on both sides ; whereas in a Joint Court, however well constituted, the objection must always remain that the Chinese official is either at the same time both plaintiff and Judge, or, at all events, is the recognized dependent of the Power which prosecutes. Moreover, the late completion of a Treaty with China with his Excellency the Prussian Minister Plenipotentiary furnishes another argument in support of this view, inasmuch as it is now to be expected that an effective Court of Appeal will be established to which recourse can be had should the decision of any of the Consuls whose States belong to the Zollverein be disapproved of by the Chinese authorities.

It is again well worthy of remark, in respect to the question of jurisdiction in Custom-house cases, that neither the Treaty of the United States of America, nor that of France, appear to sanction any fine or confiscation being enforced upon their respective subjects at the Treaty ports by the Chinese Government itself, although any proceeds of such penalties are, by both Treaties, distinctly to be for its appropriation and profit. It is well known that the United States' Consuls have received instructions from their Minister Plenipotentiary to allow no fines or confiscations to be enforced unless their own concurrence has been previously obtained, and the practice of the French Consuls is, so far as this Chamber is informed, identical in this respect.

The French Treaty goes so far as even distinctly to stipulate (Article VII) that in the event of seizure of a vessel or goods at a non-Treaty port, the French Consul at the nearest port must be previously communicated with before either seizure or confiscation can be legally pronounced.

The question arises, therefore, in the most distinct manner, whether British subjects can be called on to remain in a less favoured position than those of France or America.

It is with much regret that the Chamber learns that your Excellency does not consider that the privilege of sharing in the coasting trade is a right which can be claimed by Treaty, and consequently that you are of opinion that the recent settlement effected, by which Chinese produce transported from port to port for local consumption is subject to the Tariff duty on shipment, and a half duty on discharge, is as favourable as can at present be obtained.

This Chamber, in holding a different opinion on this question from your Excellency, relies chiefly upon the following points :—That under the Treaty of Nanking it had gradually become the custom to grant exemption certificates at all the open ports, except Canton, and that coast trade was for some time previous to the year 1858 carried on under these conditions ; that such was the state of affairs when his Excellency the Earl of Elgin framed the Treaty of Tien-tsin, and it is inconceivable to the Chamber that his Lordship could have intended a retrograde movement, in any matter of such grave importance, from the position actually held at the time of his negotiations ; that as regards the duties imposed upon foreign shipping, the Earl of Elgin did actually, and for the first time, introduce into the Treaty a stipulation (Article XXIX) by which British ships trading on the coast of China have only to pay tonnage dues once in four months, which provision the Chamber can only read as actually admitting British shipping, and by implication the cargoes which it carries, into the full benefit of the coasting trade ; that the very permission granted, and the terms by which the grant is made to ship pulse and beancake under Rule 4 attached to the Tariff, go far to strengthen the conclusion above expressed ; and that there cannot be, in the opinion of this Chamber, either by reason or by right, any distinction drawn between such produce, alike transported from port to port, as is intended for exportation to a foreign country, and that which is intended for local consumption.

It certainly would be a matter of the most serious moment, and it has evidently appeared so to your Excellency, as it would have done to the people of Great Britain, were silk and tea imported from Ningpo or the Yang-tze ports to be sent home to the consumer with the additional burden of a second duty ; and your Excellency has most rightly decided that the voyage from Ningpo or the river ports to Shanghae does not render articles liable to transit duties : but on what grounds other goods forwarded by the very same ships and by the very same route can be placed in an entirely different category, and be declared liable to half duty at the port of discharge, “being in the nature of transit duty,” because the people of the country of their production, and not a foreign nation, may be their chief consumers, is entirely beyond the comprehension of this Chamber, and quite opposed to its interpretation of the Treaty.

In reference to Article XXIX of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, and the alteration effected in favour of British shipping, I take the liberty of inclosing herein a copy of the Report of this Chamber to the Earl of Elgin, dated 2nd October, 1857, in which this Chamber did specifically recommend to his Lordship "that in regard to the coasting trade, tonnage dues should not be exacted more than once in six months on coasting vessels;" a recommendation which his Excellency adopted in the spirit if not entirely in the letter, and in a manner which goes strongly to support the opinion advocated by this Chamber.

In thus expressing its views the Chamber would regret extremely were your Excellency to think that it did not fully appreciate and value any concessions which you may have obtained for trade on points where, in your opinion, they could not be claimed as a matter of right from the Chinese Government, but the question at issue is of so serious a nature that it is most advisable that a decision should be arrived at, at once, upon it by Her Majesty's Government; and in this spirit, in which I feel sure your Excellency will concur, I would request that the accompanying copy of this letter may be duly forwarded for the consideration of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and be added to the documents already sent forward in connection with the same subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. C. ANTROBUS, *Chairman.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 7.

Report on the Tariff and General Relations.

*British Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai,
October 1, 1857.*

AT a Special General Meeting held this, day the following members were present:

Alex. Perceval, Esq., of Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Wm. Thorburn, Esq., of Blenkin, Rawson & Co.
Robert Thorburn, Esq., of Turner & Co.
H. H. Gibb, Esq., of Gibb, Livingston & Co.
Geo. Smith, Esq., of Smith, Kennedy & Co.
N. Weismann, Esq., of Reiss & Co.
F. Booker, Esq., of Dallas & Co.
W. G. Howell, Esq., of Geo. Barnet & Co.
R. Newby, Esq., of Mercantile Bank.
Jas. Whitlow, Esq., of Holliday, Wise & Co.
C. L. Richardson, Esq., of Jas. Bowman & Co.
Thos. Moncreiff, Esq., of Moncreiff, Grove & Co.

The accompanying Report on the Tariff and General Relations was adopted.
(Signed) THOS. MONCREIFF, *Chairman.*

To his Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Elgin, Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary, &c.

*British Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai,
October 2, 1857.*

My Lord,

In compliance with the request conveyed through Her Majesty's Consul at Shanghai, this Chamber has now respectfully to report, for your Lordship's consideration, its views on the operation of the Tariff of Duties on Exports and Imports, now established in the ports of China, and generally on the important subject of our commercial relations with this country.

Tariff.

1. Basing its opinion on the returns of trade since the opening of this port, which exhibit no satisfactory progression in the introduction of articles of foreign manufacture, this Chamber considers,—

Imports.

That in any revision of the scale of duties fixed by the Tariff of 1843, the principal object to be kept in view is to remove any undue pressure upon articles of general import, and thus to promote the development of this branch of the trade, as far as may be practicable and reasonable, in respect of the rate of duty.

That in consequence of a reduction in value of many staple articles of foreign manufacture, and of the lower quality of a large proportion of more recent importations, in

many cases, what was intended by the Tariff of 1843, to be a duty of about 5 per cent., has become one of about 10 per cent. and upwards.

2. That it is desirable to include in one schedule of duty-free goods, all articles which have been hitherto imported for the use of foreigners, and not as merchandize for sale to the Chinese. Goods duty free.

Under the present Tariff, a duty is leviable upon some of these, although in many cases it has not been exacted.

It is desirable that such exemption should have the sanction of Treaty arrangement.

In this schedule should also be included, articles of linen manufacture, canvas, cambrics and muslins, and blankets, so as to encourage their being brought into consumption by the Chinese.

These articles are comprised in the accompanying Schedule A.

3. That upon articles of import chargeable with duty, a rate equivalent to 5 per cent. on the value appears to be just and reasonable. Goods paying duty.

That it is desirable to adhere to the precedent in the existing Tariff, and to levy a fixed duty upon all staple articles equal to an *ad valorem* duty of 5 per cent., calculated upon an average value.

That on all minor articles and fancy manufactures, the values and descriptions of which are too varied to admit of specific classification, an *ad valorem* rate of 5 per cent. should be levied, calculated on the invoice value, with 10 per cent. added for charges, at the exchange of the day.

The sale of fixed duties recommended by this Chamber is specified in Schedule B. Under the existing Tariff a difference of 5 candarines is made between the rate levied on grey and on white cotton piece-goods, the duty on the former being 1 mace, and on the latter 1 mace 5 candarines per piece. The principal importations of white goods now consisting of common qualities, very different from the fine descriptions imported fourteen years ago, and their average value being about the same as that of grey goods, the same rate of duty is recommended to be levied in future.

Minor articles and fancy manufactures, to be charged with an *ad valorem* rate of 5 per cent., are specified in Schedule C. A similar rate should be applicable to all unenumerated articles.

4. *Opium*. That in any future arrangements this article, which now occupies such an important position in the trade as is shown by the Returns, cannot be overlooked.

In the opinion of this Chamber it is desirable to take this question into serious consideration. It should not continue as a nominally contraband trade, and the legalization of the import of the drug at a fixed moderate duty is to be preferred.

5. That as regards the staple articles, viz., tea and raw and thrown silks, the Returns of the trade at this port exhibit a satisfactory progression, and although fluctuations have taken place latterly according to the vicissitudes of the civil war, it does not appear that the duties leviable by the Tariff of 1843 have had any material effect in checking the proper development of these important branches. Exports.

Annexed to Schedule E, in which are embodied the views of the Chamber as to the future duties on exports, is a table showing the average prices of tea and silk for periods from 1845-46 to 1855-56 inclusive. In round figures the conclusion derived from this Table is, an average price for tea of 20 taels of Sycee silver per picul (133½ lbs.), for raw silk 207½ taels, and for thrown silks 237½ taels per picul. The duty on tea leviable by the present Tariff being 2 taels 5 mace of Sycee silver per picul, the per-centage is over 12. The duty on silk being 10 taels per picul, the per-centage is in the case of raws about 4·82 and of throws about 4·20.

It is the opinion of this Chamber, that as tea is not an article liable to any important competition, and as it is desirable to obtain as much concession as possible, in regard to imports which have to compete with the products of China, the rate of duty now levied, viz., 2 taels 5 mace per picul, is fair and reasonable, and does not call for reduction. Tea.

As regards raw and thrown silks, the late very large exports have been due to an extraordinary stimulus arising from the failure of the European crops. Silks.

This of course must be looked upon as temporary to a certain degree, but there seems no doubt that there will be in future a greater and increasing demand for the silks of China, in Europe, according to price and quality. Any undue pressure of duty, therefore, on this side, should be removed, inasmuch as the article has to compete with the products of other countries.

The rate now leviable by the Tariff, however, is not excessive, taken apart from other exactions to which the article is, and has been, subject; a memorandum of some of which is annexed to the Schedule.

Upon the whole, the Chamber is of opinion that the duty of 10 taels per picul, as at present, be retained.

Tares on organzine and piece-goods.

In payment of duty on China organzine, a tare of 10 per cent., and on silk piece-goods of 20 per cent., is recommended by the Chamber to be allowed in future. These tares represent the average of oil, conjee, and other extraneous circumstances, added to the raw material in the process of manufacture.

An allowance on this account has sometimes been made by the Chinese authorities, but an equitable tare should be settled by Treaty.

Grain.

6. *Rice, Paddy, and Grain of all kinds.*—At present the export of these articles is not permitted by Chinese law, even from one Chinese port to another. A bonus is given on the importation, by relieving the importing vessel from tonnage dues and admitting the grain free.

It is desirable, if possible, to have this law altered, more especially in respect of export between one Chinese port and another.

Copper cash.

7. *Copper cash.*—The usual medium of exchange among the people generally. It is admitted free, but its export is nominally prohibited.

Restrictions of this nature it is desirable to remove, and especially as in the preceding case, as regards the trade between one Chinese port and another.

Cotton and wool.

Cotton, Raw.—A duty of 5 per cent. is at present levied on the export of the raw cotton grown in this province.

In the opinion of this Chamber it is desirable to permit its free exportation with the view of stimulating the trade as far as such relief can do so; and the same remark may be applied to wool, at present liable to the same rate of duty.

Tonnage dues.

In connection with the Tariff, there are several important subjects to be considered.

8. *Tonnage Dues.*—The Chamber is of opinion that the present scale of tonnage dues, viz., 5 mace per register ton, levied upon merchant-vessels, is fair and reasonable, provided the Chinese authorities take, in consideration of these dues, the necessary steps for the efficient lighting and marking by night-vessels, towers or beacons, and buoys, the entrances to the different ports. This has been done to some extent lately at this port, but the obligation to do so should be provided for by Treaty stipulation.

In regard to the coasting trade, it is the opinion of the Chamber that tonnage dues should not be exacted more than once in six months on coasting vessels.

Harbour master.

9. *Harbour Master.*—To prevent confusion and collisions in the different ports, the Chinese Government should appoint and provide for an efficient harbour master, in correspondence with the Consuls of the Treaty Powers.

Customs.

10. *Customs Regulations.*—The Chamber is of opinion that all the ports open to foreign trade should be placed on precisely the same footing as regards the collection of duties.

The system of foreign Inspectorship, which has been established at Shanghae since July 1854, is exceptional. It was instituted, in consequence of the lax system previously prevailing on the part of the Chinese Government, to prevent smuggling, and to place all on an equality. Such a system, however, if continued under any new arrangements, must be applicable to all the ports.

The Chamber considers, that, while there appear to be considerable difficulties in the way of such an application, and among others that arising from the want of a sufficient number of efficient interpreters, this system is the best, and has worked well at Shanghae.

If it cannot be extended, a system by which the ports open to foreign trade shall be made free, as regards the foreigner, leaving the Chinese authorities to collect the duties from the native merchants, is the most eligible that can then be advocated. To carry out such a system as regards exports, little difficulty would be experienced. As regards imports, difficulty would exist, and arrangements would have to be made so as to secure the Chinese Government.

11. *Inland Duties.*—At present, and for some time past, considerable extra duties have been levied in the interior on goods and produce *in transitu*.

The Chamber cannot complain of war taxes, levied for the exigencies of State during a period of civil war, but it is of opinion that, to check extortion as far as possible, the inland duties chargeable should be specified in a new Treaty.

12. *Periodical Revision of the Tariff.*—In consequence of the fluctuations which must be expected to occur in prices from time to time, the Chamber is of opinion that provision should be made for a revision of the Tariff, every five years, should it appear fit to the Representatives of the Contracting Parties.

Any change so agreed upon, however, not to take effect until the space of one year shall have elapsed from the date of such agreement having been publicly notified.

13. *General Subject.*—(A.) It is the opinion of this Chamber, that in order to obviate for the future the difficulties and complications which have hitherto arisen from the want of direct communication with the Imperial Court, and the undue influence of provincial authorities experienced by British officers, it is very essential that some arrangement be entered into for the attainment of this object, either by the establishment of an Embassy at Peking, or by some other means, which may appear to your Lordship to be practicable and reasonable.

(B.) In addition to the five ports now open to foreign trade under the existing Treaty, Additional ports the Chamber would propose the addition of the following:—

The port of Swatow, on the south-eastern coast of Kwang-tung Province.

The port of Teng-choo, on the north coast of the Province of Shantung.

The former of these is already well-known as a valuable market for the export of sugar, and being situated at the mouth of a large river it has great facilities for water-communication with the interior. The latter might prove of service in promoting our trade with the north of China, Leao-tong, and the Corea.

With an Embassy at Peking the port of Tien-tsin would also be desirable.

The Chamber is not of opinion that an unlimited access to the ports of the coast, free of Consular jurisdiction, is desirable, or requisite, for the better development of trade. With the additions pointed out, it considers that the external points of operation will be found ample and efficient.

(C.) Such being the arrangements externally, the important question arises, as to what are the most practicable and likely to be the most beneficial, internally. Internal concessions.

The confinement of foreign traders to the ports of the seaboard has, in the opinion of this Chamber, had a much more restricting effect upon the introduction of foreign manufactures into the country than any operation of the Tariff of Duties.

China, like India, is a large manufacturing country. In both, hand-loom industry has long been in great perfection, while wages in both are low. Wages in England are high, but yet in India the progress made by the British manufacturer in introducing his goods, since the close of the Company's monopoly in 1834, has been steady and remarkable.

As illustrative.—By Parliamentary Returns for the years 1834 and 1850, the export value to British India of British manufactures, &c., was, 1834, 2,578,000*l.*; 1850, 8,022,000*l.*; being an increase of over 200 per cent. in sixteen years. The restrictions of the Chinese Government in China appear to operate in a manner similar to that of the Company's monopoly in India, and the Chamber feels that it is not too sanguine in anticipating great benefit from a less restricted intercourse with this country, and the freer action of private enterprise.

For this object the Chamber would recommend that the following concessions be obtained from the Chinese Government:—

1. Liberty of travel and residing in the country, and inland towns, under a system of passports, to be issued by Consuls of Treaty Powers, and countersigned by the Chinese chief officer at the different ports. System of pass-ports.

2. The navigation of the Yang-tze-keang (which river may be called the main artery of commerce in the country), under regulations to be determined upon. Opening of the Yang-tze-kiang.

In conclusion, my Lord, the Chamber begs respectfully to offer its services upon any points of further detail which it may be in its power to render, and your Lordship may require.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOS. MONCREIFF, *Chairman.*

SCHEDULE (A).—Duty-Free Goods: Imports.

No. and Name in Present Tariff.							Present Rates of Duty.			
							T.	M.	C.	C.
8.	Writing-desks, dressing-cases, cutlery, perfumery, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	5 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .			
	On clocks, watches, and spy glasses, being frequently bought by Chinese, the duty to be retained.									
9.	Canvas, 30 to 40 yards long, 24 to 31 inches wide	..	..	..	..	..	0	5	0	0 per piece.
13.	Cambrics and Muslins, 20 to 24 yards long, 40 to 46 inches wide	..	..	..	..	..	0	1	5	0 „
	Ginghams ..	..	..	..	..	..	5 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .			
	Pulicates ..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.			
20.	Glass, glass ware, and crystal ware of all kinds	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.			
24.	Gums—									
	Benjamin	..	..	..	..	..	1	0	0	0 per picul.
	Olibanum	..	..	..	..	..	0	5	0	0 „
							2 B 2			

No. and Names in Present Tariff.							Present Rates of Duty.
							T. M. C. C.
Myrrh	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 5 0 0 per picul.
Unenumerated	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
27. Linens—							
Fine, as Irish or Scotch	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 5 0 0 per piece.
Coarse, as linen and cotton mixtures, silk and linen ditto..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
30. Copper—							
Unmanufactured, as in pigs	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 0 0 0 per picul.
Manufactured, as in sheets, rods, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 5 0 0 "
35. Rice, paddy, grain of all kinds. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	Free.
41. Soap	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 5 0 0 per picul.
44. Treasure and money of all kinds	..	..	..	..	..	..	Free.
45. Wine, beer, spirits, &c., for private use (to be added, and European consumption)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Free.
47. Blankets of all kinds	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 1 0 0 each.
Flannels, carpeting, and druggeting, &c. (unenumerated)	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
Bunting, narrow	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 0 1 5 per chang.
Woollen clothes, stockings, &c., and any other articles for European use, now nominally coming under head of unenumerated, and charged	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
<i>Additional Articles.</i>							
30. Iron, kentledge (unenumerated metals)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
Bricks and building materials (unenumerated)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
Coals (unenumerated)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
Household stores, and generally any other articles for use and consumption of foreign residents	..	..	..	..	..	..	Free.
46. Woods (unenumerated, excepting rough timber, such as masts, beams, spars, &c.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	10 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .

SCHEDULE (B).—Imports under Fixed Duties.

Number and Name in Present Tariff.	Present Duty.	Average Price.	Proposed Duty.
	T. M. C. C.	T. M. C. C.	T. M. C. C.
1-7, 10, 11, 15-19, 21-23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31-33, 36-40, 42, 43.—These articles do not require remark.			
12. Cotton, raw (is not an article of import at Shanghai, the trade being confined to the south)	0 4 0 0 picul	0 7 0 0 picul	..
13. Cotton manufactures—			
Long cloths, white, 30 to 40 yards long and 30 to 36 inches wide	0 1 5 0 piece	..	..
Grey or uncleaned cottons, viz.:			
Long cloths, domestics, 30 to 40 yards long and 28 to 40 inches wide	0 1 0 0 "	..	..
Gray twilled cottons, 30 to 40 yards long and 28 to 40 inches wide	0 1 0 0 "	..	..
<i>The above in future to be called—</i>			
Cotton piece-goods.—Grey and white, plain and twilled, above 34 inches wide and not exceeding 40 yards long	..	1 6 0 0 piece	0 0 8 0 piece
Ditto, ditto.—Grey, under 34 inches wide and not exceeding 48 yards long	..	1 6 0 0 "	0 0 8 0 "
Ditto, ditto.—24 yards long	5 per cent.	0 8 0 0 "	0 0 4 0 "
14. Cotton yarn and cotton thread (import to Shanghai very limited)	1 0 0 0 picul	20 0 0 0 picul	1 0 0 0 picul
47. Woollen manufactures—			
Broad cloths, Spanish stripes, habit cloths, &c., 51 to 64 inches wide, per chang of 141 inches, about 2t. 4m.	0 1 5 0 chang	75 cents yard	0 1 2 0 chang
Long ells, per ditto	0 0 7 0 "	\$5 50 piece	0 0 3 5 "
Camlets, Dutch, per ditto	0 1 5 0 "	\$20 0 "	0 0 8 0 "
Ditto, English, per ditto	0 0 7 0 "	\$14 0 "	0 0 4 0 "
32. Pepper—			
Black	0 4 0 0 picul	5 6 0 0 picul	0 2 8 0 picul
White	0 4 0 0 "	8 0 0 0 "	0 4 0 0 "
34. Rattans	0 2 0 0 "	2 5 6 0 "	0 1 2 8 "
46. Woods—			
Ebony	0 1 5 0 "	2 5 0 0 "	0 1 2 5 "
Sandal-wood	0 3 0 0 "	5 8 0 0 "	0 2 9 0 "
Sapan wood	0 1 0 0 "	1 6 0 0 "	0 0 8 0 "
30. Metals—			
Iron, manufactured, as in bars, rods, &c.	0 1 3 0 "	2 5 0 0 "	0 1 2 5 "
Lead, in pigs or manufactured	0 2 8 0 "	5 0 0 0 "	0 2 5 0 "
Tin, in blocks	1 0 0 0 "	20 0 0 0 "	1 0 0 0 "
Tin-plates	0 4 0 0 "	\$6 box	0 4 0 0 "
Quicksilver	3 0 0 0 "	..	3 0 0 0 "

SCHEDULE (B).—Memorandum.

As the prices which have ruled during preceding years have been taken as a standard for arranging the duties, and these prices are considerably below those ruling at present, this Memorandum serves to show the causes of the great rise in both articles of imports and exports.

One of the chief causes, relating to all transactions of the Chinese in purchases or sales, is the enhanced value of copper cash compared with sycee: during former years 1,800 cash was about the value for 1 tael Shanghai sycee, while it is only about 1,160 at present. As all transactions by the foreign houses with the Chinese are made in Shanghai sycee, the value of all articles is, in a great measure, regulated by the comparative value of copper cash, rendering at present all articles of export very high in price to the foreign houses, while they receive, at the same time, more silver for their imports.

Besides this, a cause of the great rise in cotton goods and other articles of import here, can be found in the short supply from England this year; the events at Canton having tended to diminish shipments, and the high rates ruling at home, through scarcity of the first material, having rendered shippers still more careful.

The high prices of tea can be traced to the diminished export of the season 1856-57, and to the comparative scarcity of the article this season, caused by the presence of rebels in the growing districts, and the extra dues levied in different districts for local purposes, which enhance by so much the cost to the Chinamen, and the risk of bringing the produce to the ports.

The dearness of silk is simply caused by the great demand, in consequence of the failure of the continental crops.

All these causes can only be looked upon as, in a great measure, temporary, and when removed, we shall return to about those prices which have ruled in former years, and which are taken as a basis for levying the amount of duty.

SCHEDULE (C).—Imports under *ad valorem* Duty of Five per Cent.

Number and Name in Present Tariff.		Present Duty.	Proposed Duty.
		T. M. C. C.	T. M. C. C.
8. Clocks, watches, and spyglasses		5 per cent.	5 per cent.
13. Chintz and prints of all kinds .. piece		0 2 0 0	Ditto.
18. Handkerchiefs under 1 yard square .. each		0 0 1 0	Ditto.
Ditto above 1 yard square		0 0 1 5	Ditto.
All other foreign cotton manufactures—			
Plain, dyed, printed, and figured		..	Ditto.
47. Cassimeres and narrow cloths .. ehang		0 0 7 0	Ditto.
48. Woollen yarn picul		3 0 0 0	Ditto.
All other foreign woollen manufactures		..	Ditto.
30. All other metals of whatever kind		..	Ditto.
46. All other woods, rough or hewn		..	Ditto.
All other unenumerated Articles		..	Ditto.
Sugar is not specified in the last Tariff as an import, but is an important import to Shanghai		..	Ditto.

SCHEDULE (D).—Opium.

Not specified	Contraband ..	20 taels per chest
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SCHEDULE (E).—Exports.

Number and Name in Present Tariff.	Duty of 1843.				Average Price.				Proposed Duty.			
	T.	M.	C.	C.	T.	M.	C.	C.	T.	M.	C.	C.
7. Building materials.					Free				Free.			
60. Treasure, <i>i.e.</i> , coin of all kinds					Ditto				Ditto.			
Ditto, including copper cash					Prohibited				Ditto.			
Grain of all kinds, to be free, at least as regards trade between Chinese ports					Ditto				Ditto.			
Cotton from Shanghai					5 per cent.				Ditto.			
Wool					Ditto				Ditto.			
1 to 61 The articles referred to by these numbers do not call for remark, or alteration in the present duties, but most of them are more connected with the trade of the south of China.												
46. Silk—								Taels.				
Raw, all kinds, of any province picul	10	0	0	0				207½	10	0	0	0
Coarse or refuse ”	2	5	0	0				..	2	5	0	0
Organzine, all kinds, with an allowance of 10 per cent. on the gross weight ”	10	0	0	0				237½	10	0	0	0
Ribbons, threads, &c. ”	10	0	0	0				..	10	0	0	0
Piece-goods of all kinds, as silks, satins, pongees, velvets, crapes, lustrings, &c., with an allowance of 20 per cent. on the gross weight ”	12	0	0	0				..	12	0	0	0
55. Tea	2	5	0	0				20 0 0 0	2	5	0	0
Unenumerated articles <i>ad val.</i>								..	5 per cent.			

SCHEDULE (E).—Exports—Memorandum.

Memorandum of the Duty upon Silk, levied originally at Three Inland Custom-houses in Kwang-tung, Keang-se, and Che-keang, but since the Treaty of Nanking, at the port of shipment, in addition to the duty sanctioned by the Foreign Tariff.

	T.	M.	C.	C.
Kwang-tung province. Tae-ping Kwan Custom-house—				
On floss silk and silk thread	3	1	4	2 per picul.
On raw silk (Hoo-chow)	1	4	3	2 ”
On silk, not reeled from the cocoon, or reeled from inferior cocoons	0	7	2	4 ”
On cocoons	0	7	2	4 ”
On refuse silk	0	7	2	4 ”
On coarse yellow silk	0	3	6	4 ”
On silk called “Yoong peen,” because beaten and formed into long slips	0	3	6	4 per 100 piculs.
Keang-se province. Kan-kwan Custom-house—				
On raw silk	0	9	1	1·0 per picul.
On dyed silk thread	0	9	1	1·0 ”
On coarse yellow silk	0	4	5	9·6 ”
Che-keang province. Pih-sin-kwan Custom-house—				
On raw silk (middling quality)	0	8	5	7·6 ”
On coarsest silk	0	6	8	0·0 ”
On (raw) silk thread	0	1	4	7·2 per 10 catties.
On all raw silk not produced in Hoo-chow	0	6	4	0·0 per picul.

PRICES of Tea and Silk in Taels and Dollars per Picul, for Periods from 1845-46 to 1855-56 inclusive, showing the Average Range and the Rate of Duty per cent. per Tariff of 1843.

Season.	Congou.		Souchong.		Pekoe.		Oolong.		Skin.		Twankay.		Hyson.		Young Hyson.		Imperial.		Gunpowder.		Tsaltee.	Taysaam.	Yuenfan.	Throwns.	Lae Yungs and Shu Hings					
	Average of Range of Prices.	Average.	Average of Range of Prices.	Average.	Average of Range of Prices.	Average.	Average of Range of Prices.	Average.	Average of Range of Prices.	Average.	Average of Range of Prices.	Average.	Average of Range of Prices.	Average.	Average of Range of Prices.	Average.	Average of Range of Prices.	Average.	Average of Range of Prices.											
1845-46	14 to 41	27 1/2	...	...	15 to 80	22 1/2	17 to 32	24 1/2	32 to 60	46-0	25 to 56	40 1/2	32 to 55	43 1/2	35 to 58	46 1/2	340 to 420	380	240 to 320	250	...	...	...	...						
1846-47	10 to 30	20-0	...	...	10 to 18	14-0	14	27 to 30	29	50 to 59	14	50 to 59	15	47 to 52	18	50 to 59	380	410 to 370	330	300 to 265	...	...	...	...						
1847-48	8 to 28	18-0	...	...	10 to 20	15-0	10	22 to 16-0	15	50 to 52	15	50 to 52	16	47 to 51	19	50 to 52	395	395 to 345	210	280 to 245	...	...	...	...						
1848-49	7 to 21	14-0	...	...	8 to 18	13-0	12	20 to 16-0	14	50 to 50	13	45 to 50	14	47 to 50	17	50 to 53	310	410 to 360	215	285 to 260	...	...	...	...						
1849-50	9 to 26	17 1/2	10 to 18	14-0	20 to 26	23-0	...	...	10 to 11	10 1/2	11	11 1/2 to 11 1/2	19	24 to 21 1/2	16	23 to 14 1/2	20	29 to 24 1/2	23	32 to 27 1/2	300	340 to 285	300 to 420	360	300 to 380	340	...	...		
1850-51	11 to 23	17 1/2	10 to 16	17 1/2	23 to 23 1/2	23 1/2	...	...	10 to 11	10 1/2	14	15 to 14 1/2	21	30 to 25 1/2	20	28 to 24-0	25	28 to 26 1/2	28	30 to 29-0	335	460 to 397 1/2	260	360 to 310	330	415 to 372 1/2	380	400 to 390	...	...
1851-52	9 to 20	14 1/2	10 to 22	16-0	15 to 45	30-0	11 to 12	11 1/2	8 to 16	12-0	11	19 to 15-0	17	32 to 24 1/2	13	34 to 23 1/2	17	32 to 24 1/2	19	38 to 28 1/2	335	480 to 407 1/2	260	340 to 300	360	420 to 390	380	410 to 395	...	...
1852-53	10 to 18	14-0	13 to 22	17 1/2	15 to 40	27 1/2	14 to 17	15 1/2	10 to 12	10 1/2	12	18 to 15-0	15	28 to 21 1/2	13	36 to 24 1/2	15	28 to 21 1/2	17	36 to 26 1/2	300	450 to 375	280	340 to 285	280	410 to 345	350	400 to 375	...	...
1853-54	10 to 21	15 1/2	12 to 22	17-0	16 to 56	27-0	13 to 17	15 1/2	9 to 12	10 1/2	12	18 to 15-0	17	32 to 24 1/2	13	36 to 24 1/2	16	28 to 22-0	17	35 to 26-0	210	265 to 205	210	260 to 350	230	275 to 257 1/2	275 to 257 1/2	...	...	...
1854-55	9 to 20	15-0	11 to 19	15 1/2	14 to 21	16-0	12 to 14	13 1/2	7 to 13	11 1/2	10	17 to 13 1/2	14	40 to 28 1/2	11	35 to 23 1/2	14	28 to 21-0	17	32 to 24 1/2	225	340 to 285	175	255 to 215	255	260 to 257 1/2	250	260 to 255	175 to 205	190
1855-56	10 to 19	15-0	11 to 16	13 1/2	20 to 25	22 1/2	14 to 15 1/2	14 1/2	5 to 13	9 1/2	9	15 to 12 1/2	17 1/2	30 to 23 1/2	7	30 to 15 1/2	11 1/2	32 to 22-0	13 1/2	36 to 26 1/2	250	340 to 295	200	270 to 235	235	285 to 260	250	285 to 267 1/2	190	225 to 207 1/2
1856-57	10 to 19	15-0	11 to 18	16-0	17 to 20	19-0	12 to 14	13-0	5 to 11	8 1/2	7 1/2	13 to 10 1/2	15	32 to 23 1/2	8	28 to 18 1/2	11	32 to 23 1/2	14	32 to 23 1/2	230	340 to 290	235	330 to 290	235	350 to 327 1/2	350	380 to 365	235	275 to 255
Total 12 seasons	10 to 21	17-0	12 to 19	15 1/2	17 to 59	23-0	13 to 15 1/2	14-0	9 to 16	12 1/2	11 to 19	15 1/2	19 to 28	25 1/2	14 to 37	25 1/2	17 1/2 to 35 1/2	20 to 40	30-0	295 to 465	350	320 to 310	265	265 to 355	330	310 to 350	380	390 to 335	217 1/2	8 seasons.

Average of Black Tea ... T. M. C. C.
 Ditto, Green Tea ... 17 3 7 5
 Ditto, Black and Green ... 23 0 8 3
 Duty 2 taels 5 mace, equal to ... 20 2 2 9
 13 3 0 0 per cent.

Silk:—
 Average of raws, equal to ... \$ 98 1/2 per picul.
 Ditto, of throwns, equal to ... 330

73 per cent. equal to 207 T. 4 M. 5 C. raws; and 257 T. 6 M. throwns.

Duty 10 taels per picul equal to 4 82 per cent. raws; and 4 30 per cent. throwns.

Prices in this Table approximate correctness, as nearly as can be ascertained, without further particulars of the quantity of each quality exported than are available.

Inclosure 3 in No. 7.

Mr. Bruce to Mr. Antrobus.

Sir,

Peking, November 12, 1861.

I HAVE received your letter as Chairman of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, and as it bears upon questions connected with the Treaty, I have forwarded it to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

I do not think it necessary to discuss the questions alluded to in it further, but I may observe, with reference to confiscation, &c., imposed by the Chinese authorities for breach of Custom-house arrangements, that I conceive Her Majesty's Consul to be fully empowered to satisfy himself as to their justice, and if he be not so satisfied, to protest against them.

Knowing what were the views of the American Minister on the point of jurisdiction, and having before me the opinion of Mr. Cushing, I do not think that Mr. Ward can have claimed for American Consuls the power to deal judicially with these cases, or any more authority than Her Majesty's Consuls possess.

I may mention, also, that in analogous cases, which happened during the time of the Inspectorate, Her Majesty's Government seem to have acted in conformity with the principle laid down by Mr. Cushing, and dealt with them diplomatically, having refused to sanction a claim on the Chinese Government for the restitution of a fine levied by it after the decision of a Consular Court, to the effect that no fine was justly due.

I think it also necessary to observe that a lax practice at the ports, on the part of the local authorities, does not give to those who benefit by it a right corresponding to one claimed under Treaty, nor does it deprive the Central Government of its power to enforce its Treaty rights. The privileges of which you claim the confirmation, in as far as they are not supported by positive stipulations, must therefore be justified and supported on different grounds from those on which we are entitled to claim the benefit of arrangements to which the Governments of Great Britain and China are consenting parties.

I am, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

No. 8.

Mr. Layard to the Earl of Elgin.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 28, 1862.

I HAVE the honour, by direction of Earl Russell, to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Peking,* inclosing copies of his correspondence with the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce on certain matters connected with the Chinese Custom-house regulations; and I am to request that you will favour Lord Russell with any observations you may have to offer upon this correspondence.

I am, &c.

(Signed) A. H. LAYARD.

No. 9.

The Earl of Elgin to Mr. Layard.—(Received February 21.)

Sir,

Alexandria, February 8, 1862.

YOUR despatch of the 28th ultimo reached me at the moment of my departure from London for India, a circumstance which I greatly regret, because its inclosures refer to topics, some of which, at least, I cannot undertake to discuss without referring to documents which are not now within my reach; more especially I should have wished, before offering an opinion on the points raised by the Chamber of Commerce at Shanghai, to have seen the earlier part of its correspondence with Mr. Bruce, which is alluded to in the communication of which you have transmitted to me the copy.

My reply must, therefore, I fear be necessarily incomplete, but I shall take the liberty of submitting some observations on the general scope and purpose of the commercial part of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, which may, perhaps, assist Earl Russell in coming to a decision on the questions which are at issue between Mr. Bruce and the Chamber.

Before I proceeded to China in 1857 the Earl of Clarendon repeatedly and urgently

impressed upon me the importance of taking steps, in any new commercial arrangements which I might effect with the Chinese Government, to relieve Her Majesty's Government and its agents from all responsibility for the collection of the Chinese revenue. A certain amount of responsibility in this matter had been thrown upon them by the Treaty of Nanking, in a clause of which I do not now recollect the precise terms. Sir H. Pottinger was no doubt induced to insert this clause by his knowledge of the difficulty which the Chinese Government would experience in obtaining payment of duties from foreigners after the trade should have been thrown open, and by the desire to make it manifest that we respected its Treaty rights, and discountenanced all attempts on the part of Her Majesty's subjects to deprive it of its dues, whether by fraud or violence. If the trade with China had been carried on by British subjects exclusively, this clause in the Treaty of Nanking might possibly have worked well. But when other nations came into the field, British traders complained that their Consuls did not exercise over the proceedings of the subjects and citizens of their respective nations, a surveillance in the interest of the Chinese Government similar to that which those of Her Majesty decided it their duty to exert over British subjects. They contended that they were thus placed in a position of disadvantage, as compared with other foreigners engaged like themselves in commerce with China. The matter was referred to the Secretary of State, who was placed in a very painful dilemma, the letter of the Treaty pointing one way, and its spirit another. At last, if I rightly recollect, it was decided that as it was the clear intention of the Treaty that British subjects should be placed on the footing of the most favoured nation, Her Majesty's Consuls should not be required to impose restrictions on them from which the traders of other nations were in practice relieved. In point of fact, from that time British Consuls ceased to give the Chinese Government any aid in the collection of its revenue, except what was afforded by their retaining in their custody the papers of each British merchant-ship arriving at an open port, until the Custom-house authorities had issued the "grand chop," declaring that the dues upon it had been paid.

Lord Clarendon called my attention, with the same view, to what was called the Foreign Inspectorate established at Shanghai. This institution had been set up chiefly through the influence of Mr. Alcock, for the purpose of arresting a system of irregularity and fraud in the collection of duties at that port, which was introducing confusion into all business transactions there, and converting the payment of duties into a gambling speculation, in which the violent and unscrupulous carried off all the prizes. It was agreed that the Consuls of the three Treaty Powers, Great Britain, France, and the United States, should each recommend an officer to the Chinese authorities, and that these officers, under the title of Commissioners, should help them to levy, systematically and equally, the duties payable by foreigners. So far as regarded the attainment of the proposed object, nothing could have been more satisfactory than the working of this institution. The abuses previously complained of had been effectually checked. Some persons, indeed, argued that it was injurious to Shanghai that duties of Customs should be levied in full at that port, when they were notoriously, to a great extent, evaded or compromised at others. A *prima facie* answer to this allegation was, however, supplied by the fact that the trade at Shanghai increased more rapidly than that of any other port; and the more I examined into the matter the more satisfied I became that, where duties are as moderate as they are in China, smuggling is a great moral evil, qualified by very little of commercial advantage, and that the general interests of trade do not suffer by their being regularly levied, although a looser system may sometimes swell the gains of individuals. Lord Clarendon was not opposed to the employment of Englishmen to aid the Chinese in the collection of their Customs duties, but he objected to any interference on the part of Her Majesty's Consuls in the appointment of such persons, on the ground that some responsibility for their acts and conduct might thereby be entailed on Her Majesty's Government.

In pursuance of these instructions, accordingly, when I negotiated the Treaty of Tien-tsin, I omitted the clause of the Nanking Treaty which required Her Majesty's Consuls to aid in the collection of the Chinese revenue, leaving it to the Chinese Government to adopt, within the limits traced by their Treaty engagements, such measures as they might deem necessary to that end, and to select such agents, British or other, as they may see fit to employ; and further, with the view of meeting the objections raised on the plea of hardship to Shanghai, I added the proviso that whatever system of collection was adopted, it should, in so far as practicable, be made uniform at all the other open ports.

I was in constant communication with many of the most influential British merchants in China before the terms of the Treaty of Tien-tsin and of the Tariff appended to it were finally arranged, and had reason to believe that, on the whole, they were satisfactory to

the mercantile body. The stipulation that an uniform system of collection was to be gradually introduced at the several open ports, and the omission of the clause requiring Her Majesty's Consuls to exercise over Her Majesty's subjects a control in Custom-house matters, from which the subjects of other Treaty Powers were exempt, coupled with the large reductions in the Tariff rates of duty, and the opening up of the whole seaboard of China and of the banks of the more important navigable rivers to trade, were held to be advantages of no mean order. To the best of my recollection it never was suggested to me that I should use the power I possessed to compel the Chinese Government to divest itself of its power of enacting regulations for the protection of its revenue, and of imposing penalties for the breach of such regulations. Had such a suggestion been made, I should have been obliged to disregard it, because I could not have acted upon it without contravening one of the most essential principles of the policy prescribed to me by Lord Clarendon.

When I returned to China in 1860, however, I found that a great change had taken place. All the old animosity against the foreign Inspectorate, or rather against the employment of foreigners in the collection of the Chinese Customs (for the Inspectorate in the original sense of the term had ceased to exist), had been revived by hinting that under their advice the Chinese Government might abuse the power of enacting regulations for the protection of its revenue, and of imposing penalties for the breach of them, and a specific direction had been given to the agitation thus raised by suggesting that this risk might be obviated if the Consul at each port could exercise an absolute veto on all such regulations, and if every case of alleged breach of regulation was to be tried in the Consular Court, the Chinese Government appearing as prosecutor or plaintiff.

These views were supported by dwelling on the superiority of British over Chinese law and procedure,—an argument of much force, no doubt, but somewhat weakened by the notorious fact that the difficulty of obtaining in China such evidence as satisfies the requirements of British practice results in the Consular Court in a very frequent failure of justice.

But the supporters of these views seem to me to have taken no account of a peculiarity in our relations with China which affects in my judgment most materially the expediency (for I am not now discussing the question of international right) of adopting the system which they recommend, even if it were in our power to enforce it on the Chinese Government. If Her Majesty's Consuls are to exercise an absolute veto on all regulations for the protection of the revenue, and to decide judicially in cases of alleged infraction of such regulations by Her Majesty's subjects, the Consuls of all other Treaty Powers must acquire a corresponding authority. What will become of foreigners trading under the flag of nations having no Treaties with China I cannot undertake to say: probably, as was the case at Shanghai before the establishment of the Inspectorate there, they will in practice escape from all jurisdiction whatsoever. But leaving them aside, and looking to the Treaty Powers exclusively, two results must, as it appears to me, irrevocably follow from the adoption of this system. First, the judgment of the Consul who takes the lowest view of the obligations of his countrymen to the Chinese Government must in every case furnish the standard by which the propriety of proposed regulations for the protection of the revenue, or the culpability of traders contravening them, is to be determined; for, whatever the opinion of individual Consuls may be, it will be found, I apprehend, impossible to apply a more stringent rule in such matters to the subjects of one nation than to those of another. And secondly, if under such a system smuggling increases, the Chinese Government will be able to throw on foreign Governments the whole responsibility for this result. The evil so strongly deprecated by Lord Clarendon will be reproduced in a more objectionable form than ever. And what will be our answer if the Chinese Government, charging us with rendering their measures for the protection of their revenue abortive, ask us to substitute a protection of our own?

On the whole, then, I am disposed to think that existing Treaties with China do not authorize us to confer on our Consuls the power claimed for them, and that if we had the means of acquiring such a power, it is more than doubtful whether it would be expedient to exercise it.

To what extent the working of the existing system may have been hitherto attended with hardships or injustice, might perhaps be ascertained if Earl Russell were to inquire in what number of cases Her Majesty's Minister at Peking has deemed it his duty to protest against the imposition of a penalty by the Chinese Custom-house for an alleged breach of the revenue laws, and protested in vain. Undoubtedly, however, if the Chinese authorities at the ports were to become sufficiently self-confident to refuse to listen to the remonstrances of the Consuls, and if the Supreme Government were to sustain them in their refusal in defiance of the appeal of the Minister, abuses might ensue. It would furnish,

no doubt, a great additional security against such abuses, and a guarantee for equality in the treatment of the traders of all nations, if a Mixed Court, of which the proceedings should be public, and in which the Chinese Government was represented, could be established to deal with such cases, whether as a Court of First Instance or of Appeal. As regards the enactment of regulations for the protection of the revenue, it appears to me that the present system must continue to prevail, and that it must be left to the Chinese authorities to frame them at their discretion, subject always to the check of diplomatic remonstrance and intervention whenever, in the judgment of Her Majesty's Consul or Her Majesty's Representative, such regulations militate against Treaty rights.

I have written at greater length than it was my intention to do when I commenced this reply to your despatch; but before I conclude I trust that I may be permitted to add a few general remarks on some matters which are not, I think, wholly irrelevant to the question more immediately under consideration.

The fact that the precautions which the mercantile body deem it for their interest to urge the Government to take are directed almost exclusively against inconveniences which, as it is alleged, may be expected to arise from the introduction of a foreign element—in other words, of European or American, but chiefly of British agents—into the Chinese Custom-house establishment, suggests the inference that, left to themselves, Chinese officials are not very exacting or difficult to deal with; and, indeed, I think it may be shown that, as a general rule, the administration of the Chinese Custom-house is singularly liberal. I will mention two instances of this liberality which fell under my own notice. When I came to examine the working of the Tariff established by the Treaty of Nanking, I found that it was customary to admit free of duty into the open ports all articles imported ostensibly for the consumption of foreigners, although, as unenumerated articles, they were chargeable with an *ad valorem* duty of 5 per cent. In short, all foreigners in China enjoyed, not by Treaty right, but through the courtesy of the Custom-house authorities, the privilege which in European nations is accorded under careful restrictions to the Representatives of foreign Sovereigns only. As I thought it better that a privilege so important should not be dependent on mere favour for its continuance, I inserted these articles in a duty-free list in the Tariff appended to the Treaty of Tien-tsin. The article "ship-stores" appears on the list, and was introduced in this way. I regret to find that the indefiniteness of the term has given rise to some difficulty.

Again, when I arrived at Shanghai in 1860 I found that the Custom-house authorities had for the time spontaneously reduced the tariff rates of duty at that port by one-half, not under pressure, but because the presence of rebels in the vicinity had interfered with the operations of trade, and put difficulties in the way of importers and exporters. It is to be observed that the foreign Inspectors were consenting parties to both these measures of liberality.

It is true that at this moment, and under the financial embarrassment caused by the rebellion, there may be a disposition to press more heavily on foreign traders, but it should be remembered that in similar circumstances, more enlightened nations—as, for instance, the United States in their present difficulties, and we ourselves in our late struggle in India—have not scrupled to lay increased charges on foreign commerce. We can hardly blame the Chinese Government if it seeks to obtain from that source as much revenue as the Commercial Treaties by which it is bound will permit.

I have already said that in my judgment, now that the trade in opium is legalized, and the tariff rates of duty reduced to so moderate a scale, the moral evils of smuggling in China are not redeemed by any material benefit to the general interests of trade. But I should add that, on the other hand, it has a tendency to increase very seriously the difficulty of placing our relations with that country on a permanently pacific and satisfactory footing. The Chinese Government may not be sufficiently well informed to estimate duly the indirect benefit which their country derives from foreign commerce, but if they can be relieved from the fears which are inspired by the lawless and aggressive conduct of foreigners, I see no reason to doubt that they will learn to appreciate it as a steady and constantly increasing source of revenue. Moreover, however paradoxical the assertion may appear to those who have not made the Chinese character a study, it is certain that the Chinese have a great reverence for justice, derived no doubt mainly from the teachings of their sacred books. They sometimes practise it themselves, and always admire it in others. I feel confident that Mr. Bruce could not adopt a surer mode of gaining influence at Peking than by making it felt that he is a just man, an enemy to violence, and ready to sustain, when appealed to, the rights of the Chinaman as well as of the foreigner.

Earl Russell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 26, 1862.

HER Majesty's Government have considered, in communication with the Board of Trade, your despatch of the 10th of November last, together with your previous despatches relating to the mode in which the Custom-house system in China is administered.

It appears from your despatches that the British merchants in China thought that they had reason to complain of various matters connected with the working of this system; these complaints related chiefly to the changes which had been made with regard to "exemption certificates," the imposition of transit duty on goods carried between Shanghai and Hankow, the rate at which transit duties are generally to be paid, the interpretation of the term "ship stores," and the manner in which disputes between foreign merchants and Chinese Customs officers are to be decided. You also report the arrangements which you had made, with the concurrence of the Chinese Government, in order to remove these grounds of complaint.

I have now to state to you that Her Majesty's Government approve of those arrangements, which seem on the whole to have been satisfactory to the British merchants.

The Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, in the Memorial of which a copy is inclosed in your despatch of the 10th of November last, object to the distinction between Chinese produce conveyed from port to port for native consumption, and the same produce so conveyed for re-exportation, and contend that in neither case should any duty be paid at the port of entry; but Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that you have supplied a sufficient answer to this objection in your despatch, and that, in this instance, you have obtained from the Chinese Government as large a measure of concession as it is reasonable to expect.

The Shanghai Chamber of Commerce appears also to be dissatisfied with your proposal that disputes between foreign merchants and the Customs authorities should be decided by a Mixed Tribunal, and insist on the expediency of such disputes being referred to a Consular Court. On this point, also, Her Majesty's Government concur in your observations. It seems evident that the Chinese Government would not submit, nor could they fairly be required to be bound in such cases by the decision of a Consular Court.

I am, &c
(Signed) RUSSELL.

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DESPATCHES

FROM

COMMODORE WILMOT

RESPECTING HIS

VISIT TO THE KING OF DAHOMEY,

IN

DECEMBER 1862 AND JANUARY 1863.

Presented to the House of Lords by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

LONDON:
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Despatches from Commodore Wilmot respecting his Visit to the King of Dahomey, in December 1862 and January 1863.

No. 1.

Commodore Wilmot to Rear-Admiral Sir B. Walker.

(Extract.)

"Rattlesnake," off Lagos, January 29, 1863.

MY last communication was dated Lagos, 27th November, of last year, and I informed you that I should return to Sierra Leone from Whydah.

Since that period much has transpired that will naturally cause the liveliest interest in all quarters.

I visited the Yavogah of Whydah on the 20th November, and having met the Rev. P. W. Bernasko, Wesleyan Missionary in the English fort, he informed me that the King of Dahomey was most anxious to see somebody of consideration from England, "a real Englishman," with whom he might converse on the affairs of his country.

The Yavogah had said, "If you will come back again in seven days, I will send to the King, and let you know if he will see you."

I returned at the appointed time, much to his surprise, as he did not believe I should come back, and he told me the King was anxious to see me.

The Yavogah had sent up and said that I was a "good and proper person" to come out as a messenger from the Queen.

Before making up my mind to accept the King's invitation to visit him, there were many points to be considered of the very highest importance.

It had been said, and I believe with some truth, that our late attack on Porto Novo had enraged the King's mind to such an extent that he had expressed a strong desire to lay hands upon an English officer in order to avenge the destruction of that place.

Porto Novo belongs to his brother. The European residents at Whydah had spread the most alarming reports of the disposition of the King towards Englishmen, and his hatred of them.

It was and is, of course, their interest to do so, and keep us in ignorance of their evil deeds.

After mature consideration I resolved to go, and place implicit trust in the King's good faith.

The position of affairs in this country seemed favourable for making an impression on the King, and opening the way to the establishment of friendly relations.

Having made my preparations for an absence of fourteen days, I landed at 10 A.M. of Tuesday the 22nd of December of last year, in company with Captain Luce and Dr. Haran, of "Brisk," who had volunteered to accompany me.

The "Rattlesnake" and the "Brisk" were sent to cruize, and both vessels were ordered to return on the 14th of the same month.

We were conveyed in hammocks across the lagoon and through the wet marshy ground that is almost impassable in the rainy months, to a large tree at the entrance of Whydah, where certain ceremonies were gone through to welcome us to the place. We were received most cordially by the Yavogah and other officials, with drums beating, colours flying, muskets firing, cabooceers as well as soldiers dancing, the latter singing warlike songs.

We were also treated to the manœuvres of a slave-hunt.

As I am writing to save the homeward packet, and have much to occupy

my attention, I must ask you to forgive the omission of many interesting details in my visit to this country, which shall be furnished to you whenever I can find time to embody them in a letter.

The Yavogah and Chiefs accompanied us to the English fort, where the King's stick was presented, and the health of the Queen of England and King of Dahomey drank.

Having secured our hammock-men, carriers for our luggage, &c., and guides, and being furnished with a body of soldiers to protect us on the road, we started the following afternoon, accompanied by the Rev. P. W. Bernasko and his servants, for our accommodation during our stay.

It was necessary to provide subsistence for all these people, a very large body of men, according to the custom of the country.

We arrived at Cannah, eight miles from Abomey, on the evening of Tuesday the 9th, where the King was holding his Court.

The King was scarcely prepared to receive us, and hence we were detained on the road longer than otherwise would have been the case.

It is supposed that, on this occasion, he was anxious to display all his grandeur and all his power, and my landing so quickly at Whydah had rather disconcerted him.

At all places on the road, the head men turned out with their soldiers, and received us with firing and dancing; also, the usual presents of water, fowls, goats, &c.

Speeches were made expressive of their desire to go to war, and cut off heads for their master. The war-dance was performed by women and children, and motions made with swords as if in the act of decapitating their enemies.

Some of their songs were very curious, which shall be described hereafter.

At all the villages where we slept, comfortable quarters had been provided, and water furnished.

Nothing could exceed the civility of every one.

The water is very bad, and there is great scarcity of it, particularly in the dry season. It must be very unwholesome.

The King had sent three of his sticks by special messengers to meet us on way, with inquiries about our health, &c.

At 10 A.M. on the morning of the 10th, the King sent to say that he would receive us.

We accordingly went in full dress, and remained under some large trees, in an open space of some extent.

After a short time, the Chiefs arrived in succession with their followers, according to their rank, and were introduced to us, the same drumming, firing, dancing, and singing, being carried on as at Whydah.

This occupied a considerable time; and when finished we got into our hammocks, and went to the palace, outside of which, in a large square, were assembled all the Chiefs with their people, as well as large bodies of the King's soldiers.

The sight was most interesting: the gaudy colours of the large umbrellas, the dresses of the headmen, the firing of the muskets, the songs of the people, the beating of the war-drums, the savage gesture of the soldiers, and their ferocious appearance, made us feel indeed that we were amidst an uncivilized nation.

All, however, treated us with marked respect, while, according to custom, we were carried three times round the square.

After the third time we got down, and entered the palace gates, passing through a row of Chiefs on each side.

The court-yard of the Palace is of great extent, and presented a spectacle not easily forgotten.

At the further end was a large building, of some pretensions to beauty in this country, being made of thatch, and supported by columns of wood, roughly cut.

In front of this, and close to it, leaving an open space for admission to the King, was placed a large array of variegated umbrellas, admitted only to be used by himself.

Under these were congregated his principal Chiefs. On either side of him, under the building, were his wives, to the number of about 100, gaily dressed, most of them young, and exceedingly pretty.

The King was reclining on a raised dais, about three feet high, covered with crimson cloth, smoking his pipe. One of his wives held a glass sugar-basin for him to spit in.

He was dressed very plainly, the upper part of his body being bare, with only a silver chain holding some fetish charm, round his neck, and an unpretending cloth around his waist.

The left side of the court-yard was filled with Amazons, from the walls up to the King's presence, all armed with various weapons, such as muskets, swords, gigantic razors for cutting off heads, bows and arrows, blunderbusses, &c.

They were seated when we entered. Their large war-drum was conspicuous, being surrounded with human skulls.

We advanced to where the King was sitting with due form and ceremony, and when close to him all the respect due to a King was paid by bowing, &c., which he gracefully acknowledged by bowing himself, and waving his hand.

We then sat down close to him, in chairs that had accompanied us from Whydah.

The conversation commenced with the usual compliments. He asked about my health, and how I had got on with my journey.

He then inquired about the Queen and all her family, asking many questions about the form of government in England.

I said the Queen sent her compliments to him, and hoped he was quite well, at which he seemed much pleased.

This being only a visit of introduction, not of delivering messages, therefore nothing political was entered into.

He then gave orders for his Amazons to perform a variety of movements, and to salute me, which they did most creditably. They loaded and fired quickly, singing songs all the time.

They are a very fine body of women, and are very active in their movements, being remarkably well limbed and strong.

No one is allowed to approach them except the King, who lives amongst them.

They are first in honour and importance. All messages are carried by them to and from the King and his Chiefs.

Every one kneels down while delivering a message, and the men touch the ground with their heads and lips before the King. The women do not kiss the ground, nor sprinkle themselves with dust as the men do.

When a man appears before the King he is obliged to perform the ceremony of covering his head and upper part of his body with dust before he rises, as much as to say, "I am nothing but dirt before thee!"

It is a most degrading spectacle, but, after all, only the custom of the country.

After the Amazons had finished the manœuvres, they came to us, and gave us their compliments, singing songs in praise of their master, and saying they were ready for war, suiting the action to the word by going through the motions of cutting off heads.

The King then introduced all his Princes, Chiefs, and head warriors, in succession, according to rank; then the Chiefs and Captains of the Amazons; then the Princesses, daughters of the late King: in fact, he brought before us, and named one by one, everybody of importance in his kingdom. Some appeared in companies, and others separately. The mother of the King and the mothers of his principal Chiefs were also named and presented.

After each company was introduced, and I had bowed to them, a bottle of rum was given, the usual present after such a ceremony, and a signal that they had permission to retire.

To the head Chiefs a glass each was presented, which was drank by themselves, or given to one of their followers.

When once in the King's presence, or in his capital, no one, European or native, can leave without this customary present.

We could not go away on any one occasion that we visited him without receiving his permission to do so in the shape of one or two bottles of rum for our hammock-men.

After all the presentations, the King called the Amazons again to salute us, and then offered us water and spirits, which he drank with us, which finished the visit.

No one is permitted to see the King drink : all turn their faces away, and a large cloth is held up by his wives while the Royal mouth takes in the liquid.

The King then got up, it being almost dark, and walked side by side with me across the court-yard, through the gates, and nearly half-a-mile on the road towards our house, which was considered a great compliment. The whole Court followed, with the exception of the Amazons and his wives, who never join in such processions.

The soldiers shouted, and sang their war songs, while the Chiefs went before the King to clear the road, and point out any dirt or inequalities of ground, before the Royal feet.

The sight was imposing, and gave us a proper idea of the power of the King amongst his people. He seemed much feared as well as much beloved.

The King is a very fine-looking man, upwards of six feet high, broad shouldered, and a pleasant countenance when he likes. His eyes are bloodshot, which may arise from want of rest or other causes. He is a great smoker, but does not indulge much in the bottle. His skin is much lighter than most of his people, resembling the copper colour of the American Indians.

He is very active, and fond of dancing and singing, which he practises in public during the customs. He is much addicted to the fair sex, of whom he possesses as many as he likes. He is about forty-three years old.

Before leaving the palace the King saluted the Queen with twenty-one guns, from pieces of all sizes, laying on the ground, and firmly fixed in the sand. The largest was, perhaps, a 3-pounder : the trunnions supported them in the ground.

These guns are carried on men's heads, and occasionally placed on the ground, and fired off.

This was done as I entered the palace.

He also saluted me with nine guns.

The number of guns fired was shown by a corresponding number of musket-balls being produced in an iron pot.

We were accompanied from Whydah by the Prince who was ordered to attend us on the road, and found him most civil and obliging.

On arriving at our quarters after this day's ceremony, the Prince asked me to make a present to the soldiers and Amazons, in consequence of the manner in which the King had received me. He said he hoped I would not make him ashamed before his people, as he had brought me up, and was ordered to attend upon me. I immediately acquiesced, and made a handsome present, which was thankfully acknowledged. Whenever strangers meet in this country, they either drink with each other on their first arrival, or when they are about to depart. We had always to submit to this, which caused a great drain upon our resources.

The King's jesters danced before us to-day. One of the Amazons, in firing, had injured her hand very much by the bursting of the musket, and a messenger arrived from the King with a request that the doctor might be allowed to attend her. This was granted, and Dr. Haran saw her twice a day until the wound was healed, and a perfect cure made.

The wound was a very nasty one, and I think it was fortunate for the Amazon that the skill of Dr. Haran was called in.

We remained at Cannah until Sunday morning the 14th, when we went to Abomey, eight miles distant, where the King was to arrive in state and take up his residence in his own capital.

The custom of this country is delay, delay. No one knows the value of time, nor do they much care about keeping their word.

I frequently spoke to the Prince about seeing the King, and giving him the presents I had with me, without which no message can be given, nor private intercourse allowed.

I was told that the King would receive me in his capital, whither he was going to hold certain customs in honour of his "Father's spirit," that he wished me to see everything, how he went through the "custom," and what he did to his people. The Prince said, also, that he wished to salute me, and pass his people before me in review.

I found all remonstrances in vain, and that it would be useless to get up and walk away without seeing everything that was interesting in the country. My object was to witness the manners and customs of the King and his people, and as the King appeared so friendly disposed, and had got up so many things solely for my sake, I was determined to bear with patience and see what the end would be.

My policy was to be friendly with every one, and endeavour to show the character and disposition of an Englishman towards the nations of this country—that we could treat them with forbearance, and have some sympathy with a black man!

If I had lost my temper, and shown a disposition to be angry at the King's delay, I might have been received at once; but I should most assuredly have been sent back to Whydah without the opportunity of making a good impression on the King, or of witnessing any of those scenes which were afterwards displayed before us, and have made such a deep impression on our minds.

I have reason to believe that my line of conduct was rewarded by the whole country being laid open before us, and the whole people, King, Chiefs, and all, being our friends. The greater part of what we saw I firmly believe was entirely got up for my sake, and certainly no white man ever saw what we did, or were treated with such marked consideration.

Whenever strangers visit the capital the same delay occurs, which causes general complaints. The more the King is pleased with his visitor, the longer the time he wishes to keep him.

While at Cannah the King invited us on the afternoon of two days to witness the firing of his Amazons and soldiers with ball at a mark.

I had asked him, upon my first interview, whether he ever practised his people in this way; he said "Yes," and I heard that he was then at Cannah for this purpose.

We found him about two miles outside the town in a very large open space, which had been cleared away, surrounded by his Chiefs and people, to the number of several thousand, preparing to practise at a number of goats, which were tied to stakes driven in the ground at intervals of about fifteen yards, under a mud wall of considerable length, and about ten feet high. They were placed on mats.

The King received us very cordially, and told the Prince to place us under his own umbrellas in a convenient place for seeing everything.

The firing commenced, and the King's body guard of Amazons distinguished themselves by their good shots. The King fired several times himself.

Every shot would have struck a man.

The soldiers fired also exceedingly well, and taking into consideration the quality of the flint musket and the iron ball, which is jagged and fits loosely in the barrel, it is really astonishing at the display they made.

They would prove formidable enemies with good weapons, and if they possessed discipline and real courage.

Several goats were killed, and on the second day four of those dispatched were sent to me as a present. These had been selected by the Amazons as a particular present to me, and until they were killed no other goat was fired at.

The firing was very rapid, and I certainly was astonished at the manner in which they handled their weapons.

On Sunday the 14th, in the afternoon, the King made his public entry into Abomey. First came the soldiers by companies, headed by their particular Chief under his umbrella, firing, dancing, and singing.

These went three times round the square in which we were, outside the palace. An excellent fire was kept up. Next came the Amazons in the same manner, dancing their dances, firing and singing, each company headed by a Captain of Amazons.

They marched better than the men, and looked far more warlike in every way: their activity is astonishing. Lastly, came the King in a carriage, surrounded by his body guard of women, and drawn by them. He passed where we were, and we mutually bowed. I said to the Prince it was a pity he had no horses, which was reported to the King, who afterwards asked me if I would mention his wish to the Queen for some to be sent him as a present, which I said I would do.

I laughingly said to the Prince, "He ought to go full gallop round the square," which being told the King, he made the Amazons run round two or three times as fast as they could, much to the delight of his people; he then got out of his carriage and was carried round in a very handsome hammock.

The whole afternoon was occupied in firing, dancing, and singing; when all was concluded the King came up and shook hands most cordially. We then went home.

The red sand here is a great nuisance, and finds its way into every part of one's body and clothes. Each day we found ourselves caked over with a crust,

which required a good washing to get off; in five minutes a pocket handkerchief assumed a yellow colour.

I believe that some heads were cut off, during the night, on this occasion of the King's entry, and that it is the custom to do so whenever he returns. We could not find out how many, but eight heads were in the doorway when we passed the palace on the following morning, and it is probable that more of these trophies were inside.

We remained in Abomey five weeks from this time, and daily witnessed scenes of a very extraordinary character, such as the dancing of the Amazons, their warlike songs, the dancing and songs of the soldiers, the distribution of presents to the Princes, chiefs, captains, and head men of the troops, the "passing" of the King's drummers, of the Captains of the Amazons, of the King's jesters, and a variety of other people which appear before the King during the "customs."

A number of soldiers from the neighbourhood of Aghwey, hearing that it was the intention of the King to attack their country, had come up to Abomey to give themselves up to him, rather than take the chances of being taken, sold, or beheaded. They swore fealty to him, and it was curious to observe the ceremony on this occasion; after kissing the dust and covering themselves with sand, the King made a speech to them, and then the Prime Minister, in which was pointed out the power of the King and the greatness of his name; each Chief was called by name and presented with cowries and cloth, the two principal ones with a wife each. The whole company were then "passed" to their own country, by strings of cowries being given to them.

It is certainly very extraordinary to see what influence the King of Dahomey possesses, not only in his own country but amongst the neighbouring tribes and nations.

He is feared by all, but still he is a true friend to those who seek his alliance, and is always ready to assist them.

We had an opportunity of observing this during the last five days of our stay in his capital.

Upon the last day but one of the "customs," late in the afternoon, a large body of soldiers, with their attendants carrying their camp equipage, made their appearance from a place about three days in the interior, belonging to the King. These men had been sent to the assistance of a small town belonging to a Chief on friendly terms with the King, who had been threatened by the Abbeokutans, and who had applied to Abomey for assistance.

The King had granted the assistance required, and despatched two of his head warriors with about 600 men for this purpose.

When these men arrived at the town they found that the Abbeokutans, hearing of their approach, had run away, and hence their return to Abomey.

It was a very pretty sight to see these men return and present themselves before the King, who made them a long speech, and gave them presents.

On the Saturday, six days after our arrival at Abomey, the King saw us privately in his own palace, and I made him the presents brought up for this occasion and which will be mentioned hereafter.

He was attended by six of his Privy Council, his most trusted friends, all well known to me; also by five of his principal wives.

He would only receive the presents from my own hands, which is unusual.

I gave him first the picture of the Queen, and said that Her Majesty had sent this out to him as a mark of her friendship, and her wish to be on good terms with him. He took it in his hands and admired it very much.

The Queen is represented in her coronation robes, with crown on her head and sceptre in her hand. The frame is very handsome, and the picture is a large one.

After looking at it attentively he asked many questions concerning the dress, and then said, "From henceforth the Queen of England and the King of Dahomey are one. The Queen is the greatest Sovereign in Europe and I am King of the blacks. I will hold the head of the Kingdom of Dahomey, and you shall hold the tail." I then gave him a few small presents from myself, with which he was very much delighted and grasped me warmly by the hand. His council participated in these feelings, and said, "At last good friends have met."

Now commenced the delivery of the message which I thought it my duty to lay before the King.

The first subject was the Slave Trade, and I said, "England has, for a long

period of years been doing her utmost to stop the Slave Trade in this country. Much money has been spent, and many lives have been sacrificed to attain this desirable end, but hitherto without success. I have come to ask you to put a stop to this Traffic, and to enter into some Treaty with me to this effect. I am ready to listen to any terms which you may reasonably propose, and to report to my Government what you have to say on the subject." I then reasoned with him on the iniquity of selling his fellow-creatures, and the benefits he would derive, even in a pecuniary way, by keeping these slaves in his country, and employing them in cultivating the soil. I tried to prove to him that the value of a slave thus employed would be far more valuable to him in the long run than if he sold him at once, and sent him out of the country.

I reasoned on the richness of the soil, and how easy it would be to introduce the silk-worm, cotton, coffee, and all the productions of a similar character. I tried to convince him that he was depopulating Africa, and making its inhabitants low and miserable.

I argued that if the Slave Trade were suddenly stopped, he would become a pauper, and that every man's hand would necessarily be turned against his neighbours for daily subsistence, because all his supplies came from the "white man" from across the sea, and that these could only be purchased by the money obtained from selling slaves.

Stop the selling of slaves, and how could he possibly get the means of living, as the produce of the soil was comparatively nothing?

The people were entirely dependent on him, and his annual customs, for being fed and clothed; arms, powder, rum, tobacco, cloths and cowries, were all distributed on these occasions. And how were they produced? they were bought from the "white man" and paid for out of the money he received for selling his slaves.

I implored him to think over these things, and turn his attention to the cultivation of his soil, and the profits of legitimate trade.

I asked him how many slaves he shipped during the year, and how much he would take to enter into a Treaty with us to stop it.

The next subject was the "human sacrifices." I said that not only England, but all Europe, deplored the sad spectacle of human beings, his own countrymen, being offered up on the occasion of his annual customs, in company with fowls, bulls, and goats. Could he not put a stop to this, and let it pass away from the customs of the country? I said that I knew all sudden measures were not only dangerous, but impossible, but that I hoped he would turn over in his mind the cruelty of these proceedings, and their utter uselessness to propitiate his gods, and that in time they would cease altogether.

The third subject was Abbeokuta. I said that the Queen and the English Government hoped he would not send his army to Abbeokuta; that peace was better than war, and that his people might be far better employed in cultivating the soil, than in destroying one another.

If he had made up his mind to go there, I hoped he would be merciful to his prisoners, and particularly that he would spare all Christians.

I next asked him if he was disposed to send a Chief of rank, and one that was in his confidence, to England, that he might see with his own eyes the wonders that civilisation wrought in that country.

I said that he would be well received, and that his visit would no doubt have its influence on the King.

The opening of legitimate trade at Whydah was the next subject of conversation, and the reception of the English at that place.

Lastly I spoke about the Missionary schools, and asked him to allow those who wished to do so, to send their children to be educated.

The King listened attentively to all my questions, and made several remarks during their delivery.

After they were finished, the usual ceremony of drinking was gone through, and he accompanied me through the gates of the palace far on the road to our quarters, amidst the cheers of the soldiers and people.

We remained a month in Abomey after the delivery of this message, in consequence of the "customs" going on, but nothing could persuade the King to let us go until this was over, as he was most anxious that we should see everything and report it.

Daily we witnessed his Amazons and soldiers, dancing and singing.

We saw his treasures pass round in the interior of the palace, preceded by all the principal Ministers, Princes, and Chiefs, in their Court costume.

The Captains of the Amazons passed round in the same way, and it was a very pretty sight.

The costume worn, the different colours displayed according to etiquette, the ornaments of silver round the necks, with an occasional skull at the waist belt of the Amazons, and the half savage appearance of all, notwithstanding their good manners and modest behaviour, was peculiarly interesting.

It was during the procession of the King's treasures, which will be more fully described in another letter, that the "human sacrifices" came round, after the cowries, cloths, tobacco, rum, &c., had passed, which were to be thrown to the people. A long string of live fowls on poles appeared, followed by goats in baskets, then by a bull, and lastly half-a-dozen men with hands and feet tied, and a cloth fastened in a peculiar way round the head, and carried in a basket by one man on the top of his head, furnished this part of the procession.

The men were carried three times round the square, the first time stopping opposite to where the King was sitting, where the bearers received a glass of rum each, from an Amazon in attendance. They then passed through the gates to the platform half a mile off.

The procession lasted two days, and "human sacrifices" passed round both days; on the first day eight went round, and on the second day six: half of these were killed, and half spared, so we were told. Probably they are only spared until the next "customs." The unfortunate men looked at us as they passed; but it was not in our power to help them in any way.

The King said they were criminals, who had broken the laws of their country, such as murderers, thieves, &c.; but I have every reason to know they were captives, mostly taken at Ishagga, from the peculiar marks on their face.

A day or two after these processions, the King appeared on the first platform: there were four of these, two large and two small.

His father never had more than two, but he is determined to excel him in everything, and to do as much again as he did. If his father gave one sheep as a present, he gives two; which he did when he sent me a present of cows, sheep, &c., according to custom.

The sides of all these platforms are covered with crimson and other coloured cloths, with curious devices, such as alligators, elephants, snakes, &c., from twelve to fifteen feet high; and the large ones are in the form of a square, with a neat building of considerable size, also covered over, running along the whole extent of one side.

You ascend by a rough ladder covered over, and enter the platform, which is neatly floored with dried grass, and perfectly level.

Dispersed all over this were Chiefs under the King's umbrellas, sitting down, and at the further end from the entrance the King stands surrounded by a chosen few of his Amazons.

In the centre of this side of the platform is a round tower, about thirty feet high, covered with cloths, bearing similar devices as the other parts. This is a new idea of the King's, and from the top of this tower the victims are thrown to the people below.

When the King is ready, he commences by throwing cowries to the people in bundles, as well as separately. The scramble begins, and the noise occasioned by the men fighting to catch these is tremendous.

Thousands are assembled with nothing on but a waist clout, and a small bag for the cowries. Sometimes they fight by companies, one company against the other, according to the King's fancy; and the leaders are mounted on the shoulders of their people. After the cowries, cloths are thrown, which occasions the greatest excitement.

While this lasts the King gives them to understand that if any man is killed, nothing will be done to the man who is the cause of it, as all is supposed to be fair fighting with hands; no arms are allowed.

After this the Chiefs are called, and cowries, cloths, &c., given to them. The King begins by throwing away everything himself; then his Amazons take it up for a short time, when the King renews the game, and finishes the sport. He changes his position from one place to another along the front part of the platform.

When all that the King intends throwing away for the day is expended, a short pause ensues, and, by-and-bye, is seen inside the platform, the poles men

tioned before, with live fowls (all cocks) at the end of them, in procession towards the round tower.

Three men mount to the top, and receive, one by one, all these poles, which are precipitated on the people beneath. A large hole has been prepared, and a rough block of wood ready, upon which the necks of the victims are laid, and their heads chopped off, the blood from the body being allowed to fall into the hole.

After the fowls, came the goats, then the bull, and lastly the men, who were tumbled down in the same way.

All the blood is mixed together in the hole, and remains exposed with the block till night.

The bodies of the men are dragged along by the feet, and maltreated on the way, by being beaten with sticks, hands in some cases cut off, and large pieces cut out of their bodies, which are held up. They are then taken to a deep pit and thrown in. The heads are alone preserved by being boiled, so that the skull may be seen in a state of great perfection. The heads of the human victims killed are first placed in baskets and exposed for a short time.

This was carried on for two days. I would not witness the slaying of these men on the first day, as we were very close to them, and I did not think it right to sanction by my presence such inhuman sacrifices. I therefore got up and went into a tent, and when all was over returned to my seat.

It was upon this occasion that a circumstance took place which redounds highly to the credit of the King, and should be made known everywhere. While sitting in the tent a messenger arrived, saying "The King calls you." I went and stood under the platform where he was. Tens of thousands of people were assembled; not a word, not a whisper was heard. I saw one of the victims ready for slaughter on the platform, held by a narrow strip of white cloth under his arms. His face was expressive of the deepest alarm, and much of its blackness had disappeared; there was a whiteness about it most extraordinary.

The King said, "You have come here as my friend, have witnessed all my customs, and shared good naturedly in the distribution of my cowries and cloths; I love you as my friend, and you have shown that an Englishman, like you, can bear patience, and have sympathy with the black man. I now give you your share of the victims, and present you with this man, who from henceforth belongs to you, to do as you like with him, to educate him, take him to England, or anything else you choose." The poor fellow was then lowered down, and the white band placed in my hands.

The expression of joy in his countenance cannot be described: it said, "The bitterness of death, and such a death, is passed, and I cannot comprehend my position." Not a sound escaped from his lips, but the eye told what the heart felt, and even the King himself participated in his joy. The Chiefs and people cheered me as I passed through them with the late intended victim behind me.

I will not enter into my own feelings on this occasion; they can be easily understood: but the saving of even this one man's life was a sufficient recompense for all the delays and for all our detention. I felt that another victim would have been added to the sanguinary list of Dahomian sacrifices if I had not carried out that line of forbearance which I had determined to adopt.

The Chiefs all congratulated me and shook me by the hand. Another victim was given to a Chief, a particular friend of mine, and he said it was on my account.

The "customs" were concluded by a day of firing, when all the soldiers, under their different leaders, marched past the King and in review order before us. The King danced with his Amazons, and invited us to join. The firing was excellent and did them great credit. The King must have expended an immense quantity of powder during our visit.

While the "customs" last the King does not transact any public business, and he told us that he had hurried them over on purpose that we might get away.

On the afternoon of Friday, the 16th January, the King asked me to review his Life Guardsmen and women, which I did, and he then made me Colonel or King over the whole of them, about 1,000 strong each; an honour for which I had to pay dearly, according to the custom of the country.

Speeches were made by the Captains of each, who were introduced separately, the whole tenor of which was what they would do at Abbeokuta, and the number of heads that would fall to my share; as I was now their Chief, and consequently had a right to a part of everything they took.

The following day, Saturday the 17th, the King saw us in private, as before, and said he was ready to give me his answer to the message I had brought.

He commenced by paying me many compliments, and said how glad he was that such a messenger had been sent, who by his patience and forbearance had shown himself a friend to the black man.

He then entered into a long history of his country in the time of his ancestors, and how anxious his father was to be friends with the English; that for many years past (he did not know the reason why), the English seemed to be hostile to him and endeavoured to make all nations in Africa fight against him.

He said that the Slave Trade had been carried on in his country for centuries, and that it was his great means of living and paying his people. He did not send slaves away in his own ships, but "white men" came to him for them, and was there any harm in his selling? We ought to prevent the "white men" from coming to him; if they did not come he would not sell.

We had seen what a great deal he had to give away every year to his people, who were dependent on him; that this could not be done by selling palm oil alone. If people came for palm oil he would sell it to them; he could not carry on his Government upon trade alone. If he gave up the Slave Trade, where was he to get money from? It was not his fault that he sold slaves, but those who made his fathers do it, and hence it became an institution of his country.

He said, "I cannot stop it all at once: what will my people do? And besides this, I should be in danger of losing my life." I asked him how much money he would take to give it up. He replied, "No money will induce me to do so; I am not like the Kings of Lagos, Porto Novo, Benin, &c. There are only two Kings in Africa, Ashantee and Dahomey; I am the King of all the blacks. Nothing will recompense me for the Slave Trade." I argued that it must be stopped in time; that even now very few ships came for them: and what would he do when it was all done? I found it useless to go on any further on this subject. He said there were plenty of blacks to sell, and plenty to remain; that the price of a slave was 80 dollars, with 4 dollars custom on each. On most occasions he is paid before the slaves are taken away, but sometimes he risks them on trust, and then he feels the capture of the slave-ship.

He said, "I must go to Abbeokuta: we are enemies; they insulted my brother, and I must punish them. Let us alone; why interfere in black man's wars? We do not want 'white men' to fight against us; let every one go out of Abbeokuta, and see who will win. Let the 'white man' stand by and see which are the brave men!"

He spoke strongly of Porto Novo, and said, "If my friends the English had sent to me, I would have broke Porto Novo for them." He does not want the "white man" to interfere in any way with the black man's quarrels. He promised faithfully, for my sake, to spare all the Christians, and send them to Whydah, and that his General should have strict orders to this effect. I asked him about the Christians at Ishagga. He said, "Who knew they were Christians? The black man says he is a white man, calls himself a Christian, and dresses himself in clothes: it is an insult to the white man. I respect the white man, but these people are impostors, and no better than my own people. Why do they remain in a place when they know that I am coming? If they do so, I suppose they are taking up arms against me, and I am bound to treat them as enemies. If a musket-ball touches the white man at Abbeokuta, am I to blame, if they will not go away when they know I am coming?" I reasoned with him no longer on this subject, because I thought his observations so thoroughly just and honest.

The next subject was the "human sacrifices." He said, "You have seen that only a few are sacrificed, and not the thousands that wicked men have told the world. If I were to give up this custom at once, my head would be taken off to-morrow. These institutions cannot be stopped in the way you propose. By-and-bye, little by little, much may be done; softly, softly, not by threats. You see how I am placed, and the difficulties in the way: by-and-bye, by-and-bye."

We then came to a Prince being sent to England, which he said he would do if I came again to renew the friendship and give him the Queen's answer to what he had said.

With regard to the schools at Whydah, the King said, "Any of the mulattoes may send their children;" and I have no doubt, if he sees we are in earnest, that in a very short time he will allow his own people to do the same thing if they choose.

After the interview, which lasted some time, was over, the King made several

presents, namely, for the Queen, a large umbrella made of different coloured velvets, with the devices emblematic of their customs; a large carved stool, which no one but Kings are allowed to possess; a pipe-stick and bag; a bag made from the leather of the country, with a lion worked upon it; a very handsome country cloth, and a long stick ornamented with silver, which can only be carried by the King. Also two girls, one about twelve, the other sixteen, very pretty and intelligent. I have left these last at Whydah, in charge of the coloured missionary's wife there, until I can learn the wishes of Her Majesty on the subject. The girls were taken at Ishagga, and I should think would be very interesting to the Queen.

In my next letter I hope to give an account of the resources of Dahomey, its form of government, the number of soldiers and Amazons, as well as a description of the country, and everything else that will be both valuable and interesting to know; also many sayings of the King, which I have not time to mention now.

We left Abomey the same evening, and were conducted with great honours to Whydah, where we arrived on Thursday afternoon, the 22nd instant, after an absence of fifty-one days.

I went on board the following morning.

Such a lengthened stay in the country of the King, and at his capital, could not have been effected without some expense; many presents of different kinds had to be given away, as well as money. The reception given me by the King demanded this, and I hope I maintained with becoming dignity the honour of the country. Trusting my proceedings will meet with approval, as I have only acted for the good of the public service, I have, &c.

No. 2.

Commodore Wilmot to Rear-Admiral Sir B. Walker.

"Rattlesnake," at Sea, Lat. 3° 33' N., Long. 6° 7' E.,

February 10, 1863.

(Extract.)

IN continuation of my former letter of proceedings dated Lagos, 29th January, 1863, I have to add the following additional observations on various subjects connected with my late visit to Abomey.

I have already remarked on the friendly disposition evinced by the King towards the English, as manifested in his manner to me on all occasions. "From henceforth," he said, "the King of Dahomey and the Queen of England are one; you shall hold the tail of the kingdom, and I will take the head:" meaning that we should have possession of Whydah for trading purposes, and supply him with everything.

He is most anxious for trade at Whydah, and if we can only prove to him that we are really sincere in our wishes to be friendly with him, I am quite certain that he will think very seriously of our proposals to him for giving up the Slave Trade, as well as the "human sacrifices."

Both of these are "institutions" of the country; the first, established and encouraged by the "white man" himself; the second, handed down from father to son as a principal part of their religious ceremonies, still enforced and fostered by the ignorance and superstition of the "fetish" priests.

Every house has its "fetish" hanging up, and every man has a "fetish" charm about his person. There is a devil fetish for driving away evil spirits, and another for bringing good luck. These consist of small mounds of earth with a calabash on the top, surrounded by cowries, or a repulsive-looking face carved out of wood. There are all kinds of images, such as lions, tigers, dogs, and other animals without a name, cut out in the rudest manner, and carried about in all great processions.

The roads, villages, and houses, are filled with "fetish" images, and sacrifices to the "fetish." The latter consist of goats, fowls, fruits, &c., being laid under a small mat shed, around the idol whom it is intended to propitiate,—dead, of course.

Men, women, and children, consult the "fetish" as to the food they ought to eat. Some are allowed to eat beef, others only mutton; many are prohibited to touch the flesh of goats. Poultry is permitted to some, eggs to others. This nonsense is carried on all over the kingdom, and strictly enforced; but I have never heard any one, man or woman, say that the "fetish" forbade them to drink wine or spirits.

We lived at Abomey, in the house of the King's chief diviner, a man of high rank and consequence, one of the Privy Council, and the king's adviser on all great occasions. The King never does anything without the diviner first consulting the "fetish," to find out whether it will be favourable or unfavourable. His house is full of "fetish" of every description.

I mention these things concerning the religion and superstition of the country, to show how impossible it will be for the King to give up at once the "human sacrifices." He himself says, "Softly, softly; it shall be done in time, but not yet; my head would be cut off to-morrow if I stopped it suddenly!"

A few have an idea of a Supreme Being, but still a very imperfect one. The King knows more of these important truths than any of his subjects, and we shall see the good effects of this knowledge by and bye.

I will now enter upon a description of the country and its resources, its capabilities for legitimate trade, its present means of subsisting an hostile force, as well as of resisting an attack, the number and description of its soldiers, the dangers that would attend the landing of a force for the occupation of Whydah, and the difficulties to be encountered in retaining it when once in our possession.

Description of the country and its resources, &c.—The distance from Whydah to Abomey is sixty-five miles. It is extraordinary what mistakes former writers have made in giving the distance from Whydah to Abomey. Mr. Norris, in 1774, states it to be 150 miles; other more or less, according to exaggerated reports, or their own imagination.

Whydah is three miles from the sea. From the beach to Whydah the country is flat, and three pieces of water have to be passed over; the first is a lagoon that extends eastward to Lagos, with the exception of a portion of the mainland, three miles broad, and westward to Aghwey and Little Popoe. This lagoon is navigable for canoes all the year round.

The second and third pieces of water are through marshy ground; roads being cut through them, about ten feet wide, for the purposes of traffic, &c. These are almost impassable in the rainy season, and in the dry season contain about two feet of water, black and muddy, with a very bad smell.

In 1851 I caught the fever badly from passing through this very swamp.

Whydah is a large straggling place, containing some decent houses. There are three forts or factories, English, French, and Portuguese. The French is in excellent repair, and does great credit to the French gentleman who carries on his business there. The Portuguese is at present inhabited by missionaries of that nation, and the English fort is the residence of the Wesleyan Missionary, the Rev. P. W. Bernasko, a native of Cape Coast.

No one has any territorial rights in this place. The King of Dahomey reigns supreme, and could turn any "white man" away if he pleases.

There are a great number of guns, all spiked, 9-pounders and 12-pounders, in and around the English fort, which have been there for ages. There is a curious history attached to these guns, which I will relate, as it shows that the English are actually the hereditary friends of the Dahomian Kings.

During the long period that England acknowledged the Slave Trade as legitimate, and the stowage of slave-ships was regulated by Act of Parliament, the fort of Whydah was in a high state of preservation, and Englishmen were appointed as Governors, under the authority of the Crown.

They were always on good terms with the Kings of Dahomey, and in those days great presents of carriages and horses, &c., were made; some of the carriages I saw the other day at Abomey in a very rickety state. They are kept as "heirlooms" in the capital, and pass round with the King's treasures.

These Governors had great power over every one, and communicated directly with the King, who obtained his supplies entirely from the fort. We had soldiers then to protect the place, and guns were mounted in all commanding positions.

A deep ditch surrounded the fort which remains to this day. Whydah was a flourishing kingdom early in the last century, when it was conquered by Dahomey, who committed the most horrible outrages, and the country was reduced to desolation.

It must have been about the year 1750 that the people of Whydah, tired of the Dahomian yoke, rose against the King, and, no doubt, they would have been successful had not the English Governor shut his gates and turned the guns of the fort upon the rebels.

The Dahomian army came in from Savi, a considerable town in those days,

four miles from Whydah, and the rebels were completely defeated, thanks to the English guns.

The King was very grateful to the Governor for his assistance on this occasion, and enlarged his privileges considerably; but at the same time he said, "This won't do; these English with their guns are formidable enemies, they may turn me out some day;" so he spiked all the guns in the fort before he went away, in which state they are to be seen to this day.

From henceforth, until a few years ago, the Kings of Dahomey had a strong friendship for the English, and the King mentioned one man in particular in the time of his grandfather, Mr. James, who was Governor of the fort, and his "best friend."

The population of Whydah is large in comparison to other towns in the kingdom, with the exception of Abomey; it contains, probably, about 12,000 inhabitants, including the soldiers belonging to the Yavogah and Prince Chedathon.

I observed a great falling off in this place; twelve years ago it was in a flourishing condition, with many capital houses and merchants residing there; now, most of these houses are in ruins, and the trade is small. It will be well to consider the cause of this decline hereafter.

The great families of "De Souza" are either dead or dispersed; those that remain are of small importance to what their fathers were.

Stock used to be plentiful and very good; at present it may be obtained, but not in such abundance; it is also dear to what it was formerly. Water is plentiful both from the lagoon and by wells, which are to be found in all large houses; it is very good. Fruit, such as oranges, pine apples, and bananas, is cheap and abundant.

From Whydah to Abomey the whole country is a flat level, and there are regular villages which are considered as established "halting places" for the traveller.

The want of water begins after you leave Whydah. There is a dark deep swamp about three miles distant, over which (that is, the road through it) large pieces of timber have been placed so as to form a bridge, the crossing of which is a dangerous operation. The water is black and muddy.

The country through which we passed varied much, from open plain to thick forest. There is no other road than the one by which we travelled. A great part of the country is well adapted for cultivation, and would produce cotton, silk, coffee, indigo, sugar, and everything else that grows in similar climates.

Around the villages the ground is cultivated, and produces Indian corn, cassada, beans, &c., just sufficient to maintain life. As we approached Abomey, more extensive tracts of ground were under the hands of the farmer, chiefly belonging to the King, who has to distribute largely to all his people.

People have no time for peaceful pursuits: war, war, war is alone thought of, and the King gives them no rest. Many of the Chiefs complain of this, and seem heartily tired of it. I am sure they would gladly turn to a better state of things if they dared. They have no time to themselves; there is always some "custom" going on, and hence the country is in a state of desolation, and the population is gradually decreasing.

There are some noble trees in the jungle through which we passed. One measured nearly 100 feet round its base, and the stem went up to 70 or 80 feet, without a knot or branch to rob it of its beauty. This was the "cotton silk tree," of no use whatever, either in its fruit or timber. The branches were magnificent, and I counted thirty some 50 or 60 feet in length, of enormous size, and covering a great extent of ground. As far as we could see and learn, the trees of this country produce no timber fit for any purposes of building.

I never saw such a scarcity of the necessaries of life. Cattle, sheep, and goats are few in number: these are only kept by the King and Chiefs, who do not seem to understand that their wealth would be increased by breeding largely and keeping up a good supply. The use of milk is unknown. Fowls are not plentiful; we paid 2s. each for them.

The Chiefs rarely eat meat, the people never. They live upon "cankey," which is made from Indian corn, and mixed with palm oil.

They are ardently fond of spirits, the common rum that is imported by nearly all traders; it is very strong, and they prefer it to wine or good brandy.

I was astonished at the scantiness of the population. As we passed through the villages, nearly everybody turned out to see us.

After we had left, every soldier in the place went on to Abomey to swell the numbers there. There was not a man to be seen on our return, none but women and children. There may be other villages out of the direct route to Abomey, and no doubt there are many, because the kingdom is a large one; but still the great question of the population of Dahomey has been unquestionably decided by my visit.

We everywhere expressed astonishment at meeting so few people, which accounts for the small portion of land under cultivation. There are far more women than men, I should say three to one, which may be the reason why the Kings of Dahomey, who are always at war, are obliged to raise and keep up the Amazons, or "women soldiers," to the extent that they do.

As war is made one of the necessities of the State, a constant drain upon the male population is required, and it naturally follows that the supply is never equal to the demand; hence the remarkable circumstance of nearly "5,000" women being found in the Dahomian army.

There is, probably, another reason for thus brutalizing the minds and feelings of the softer sex in this country, which is, that the King may think it a good stroke of policy to encourage and patronize these Amazons to the extent that he does, for the purpose of creating a rivalry amongst the men, which will incite them to prove their courage and their strength beyond that displayed by the other sex.

The Amazons are everything in this country. The King lives with them and amongst them; they are only to be found in the Royal palaces. When they go out to fetch water, which is every day and nearly all day, the one in the front (for they all follow in single line) has a bell round her neck much like a sheep-bell in England, which she strikes herself whenever any person is seen approaching. Immediately the men run away in all directions, and clear the road by which the Amazons are coming. They then wait till all have passed. The reason for this is, that if an accident were to happen to any one of these women, either by her falling down and breaking the water-jar on her head, or if the water-jar fell off her head, the unfortunate man who happened to be near at the time would be immediately seized, and either imprisoned for life, or have his head taken off, as it would be supposed that he was the cause of the accident.

No wonder, then, that they get out of the way as quickly as possible. We were always obliged to follow this custom; women are not expected to avoid them in this manner. It is one of the most absurd laws that even a savage nation can pass, because it stops business, and delays everybody on the road. All day long the sound of this bell is heard, and people are seen flying away. The Amazons seem to enjoy it, and laughed heartily when we stepped aside to avoid them.

Whatever may be the object in thus keeping up such a large body of "women soldiers," there is no doubt that they are the mainstay of the kingdom. I put down the number at 5,000; besides these there are numerous women to attend upon them as servants, cooks, &c. We certainly saw 4,000 under arms at Abomey, and there are more in other parts of the kingdom residing in the Royal palaces.

They are far superior to the men in everything—in appearance, in dress, in figure, in activity, in their performances as soldiers, and in bravery. Their numbers are kept up by young girls of 13 or 14 years of age being attached to each company, who learn their duties from them; they dance with them, sing with them, and live with them, but do not go to war with them until they have arrived at a certain age, and can handle a musket.

These women seem to be fully aware of the authority they possess, which is seen in their bold and free manner, as well as by a certain swagger in their walk. Most of them are young, well-looking, and have not that ferocity in their expression of countenance which might be expected from their peculiar vocation; but many have passed that time of life when all passions have ceased to animate, and make their mode of life at least worth retaining.

They are supposed to lead a life of chastity, and there is no doubt that they do so, because it is impossible for them to do anything wrong without being discovered, and such discovery would lead to certain death. The King alone has the privilege of selecting any of these women for his wives, which is rarely the case.

As soldiers in an African kingdom, and engaged solely in African warfare, they are very formidable enemies. They fully understand the use of the musket, and load and fire with remarkable rapidity. Their activity is surprising; they would run with some of our best performers in England. The "Captains" carry the skulls of their enemies in their girdles, and an occasional jaw is also seen.

During the mornings and evenings large parties of these women are sent to fetch water for the use of the King and his household, a distance of many miles. It is a very pretty sight to see long strings of women, with water-jars on their heads, wending their way silently and quietly across the country to where the wells are; the only sound to be heard is when the leader rings her bell for the road to be kept clear.

Water at Abomey is the great drawback of the place. There is none in the town; it all comes from the swamps, three or four miles in the country. Women are the principal water-carriers, although men are employed also. At this season of the year it is very scarce and very bad. The process of getting it is this. An embankment is formed round the large pools, which are filled from the draining of the marshy ground, very dirty of course. Around this large holes or wells are cut, into which the water filtrates from the pool. Smaller holes are again cut next to these, into which the water percolates, being this time tolerably clear. Into these small holes the women dip their calabashes, and in process of time the water-jar is filled; it is a long operation.

This clear water is only, however, for the higher classes, and for those that can afford to purchase it. The poor people drink from the muddy pool, and are thankful for what they get.

The ground is not favourable for boring, being a mixture of iron-stone, granite, and sand. It sounds hollow as you walk over it.

We visited all the wells, and it is certainly surprising how such a large population can live upon such a limited supply of water.

The "men soldiers" are more numerous than the "Amazons," and are armed in the same way. They are also very active and expert with their weapons. I should say that the King could not bring into the field more than 6,000 fighting men. This number, with the "Amazons," will amount to 10,000 altogether. I am quite certain that this is the full extent of his power.

All these are armed with a musket and short sword, and against their own countrymen would be formidable. Their fighting is not like ours, but a system of strategy, cunning, and surprise; their object being to arrive at the intended point without being heard or seen. Should they succeed, so much the better for themselves; if not, they fight for an hour or two in a desultory sort of manner, without order and without discipline; after which, if they cannot carry their point, the whole army runs away, and makes the best of its way back to the capital.

It is in the pursuit, as well as in the capture of a place, that the great sacrifice of life is made. Heads are chopped off without mercy, and brought in to show the prowess of the captors. It was in the pursuit of the Dahomian army by the Abbeokutans in 1851 that the Amazons were so dreadfully cut up. We were told at Abomey that they lost thousands. Many die also from hunger and exposure, and it is in consequence of these continual wars that the population of Dahomey is decreasing every year.

The population of Abomey varies very much according as the King is residing there or not. It is a very large and straggling place, nearly surrounded by a deep ditch, with gates in different parts. This ditch is now filled up with trees and bushes, and must have cost much time and labour to make. Abomey is probably seven miles round, but it must not be inferred from this that the inhabitants are in proportion. I should say 20,000 is the maximum. The want of population is seen everywhere. If a census were taken of all the Dahomian territory, 180,000 would, I am confident, take in every man, woman, and child. Even this number seems to me, on reconsideration, to be too much. Women and children form three-fourths of the whole.

Large tracts are passed through without a living creature being seen. If the forests were cleared, the brushwood cut down, and the inhabitants were allowed to make use of their time in peaceful pursuits, there is no doubt that the country would produce everything that is valuable. It would support a population of many millions, providing some means were found of obtaining water, which might be done by Artesian wells.

There are no regular roads, but merely a footpath all the way, which, for many miles in some places, passes through a dense forest, while at others it is across an open plain, with long grass, bushes, and weeds on either side.

The chiefs and head men ride upon small ponies, which originally came from Abbeokuta. These perform the journey from Whydah to Abomey, and there is no reason why larger animals should not do the same, as the road is good, with

the exception of the swamps and water which have to be crossed. There is a swamp with a very bad road through it, nine miles long, about eighteen miles from Abomey, which is impassable during the rainy season. Even the natives have great difficulty in finding their way. It was dry when we walked across, and therefore in its best condition, but we were very glad to get to the end of it. It is full of deep ruts and holes, and very narrow. The bottom is of a dark, clayish character, and very slippery when the least wet.

From Cannah to Abomey, a distance of eight miles, the road is broad enough for a dozen carriages to drive abreast, and in Abomey, and around it, horses might be galloped in all directions.

The country at this time of the year, namely, from the middle of November to the end of April, is remarkably healthy, at least we found it so; for a period of fifty-one days we never had an hour's sickness. It is much cooler on shore at this season than at sea, and the temperature may be high; still the atmosphere is not oppressive, and during the harmattan winds it is positively cold: we experienced this on two occasions, the water becoming in one night almost too cold to drink. It affects the natives very much, drying up their skin and lips, and preventing them from washing, as they cannot stand the change. We, of course, enjoyed it.

The natives are lightly clothed, and are very active on their legs. One of the principal Chiefs at Abomey told me that he suffered very much from being obliged to find his way through the bush when he last went to Abbeokuta.

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CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

DARDANELLES & ALEXANDRIA

TELEGRAPH.

*Presented to the House of Commons by Command of Her Majesty, in pursuance of their
Address dated May 7, 1863.*

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RETURN to an Address of the Honourable the House of Commons, dated May 7, 1863;
for—

“Copy of all Correspondence between the Foreign Office and the British Ambassador at Constantinople, and between the Foreign Office and Messrs. Newall & Co., relative to the Dardanelles and Alexandria Telegraph.”

No. 1.

Lord J. Russell to Sir H. Bulwer.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, June 30, 1859.

HER Majesty's Government have taken into consideration the note from Fuad Pasha to the Internuncio, of which a copy was inclosed in your Excellency's despatch of the 11th ultimo,* and wherein Fuad Pasha states the reasons of the Porte for continuing to refuse the Firman for landing the projected line of telegraph from Ragusa at Alexandria.

I regret to say that the purport of that note is most unsatisfactory to Her Majesty's Government, and that they can by no means acquiesce in the view of the subject which is maintained by Fuad Pasha.

The introduction in the transfer† of the concession of the line between Cape Hellas and Alexandria from Mr. Gisborne to Messrs. Newall and Co., of the new condition whereby it was provided that that line should not be connected with any foreign station, was a gratuitous act on the part of the Porte. It was done in opposition to the known wishes of the British and Austrian Governments, and to the engagement subsisting between Messrs. Newall and the Red Sea and India Telegraph Company, and would appear to have had no other object than to secure for the line in question a monopoly of the telegraphic communication between Europe and the East.

Your Excellency has already been informed that Her Majesty's Government could not, under these circumstances, lend support to any claim on the part of Messrs. Newall for compensation in the event of the withdrawal by the Porte of the new condition of which we complain; and Her Majesty's Government still trust that the Government of the Sultan will see fit to cancel it.

With regard to the payment of 4,500*l.* per annum secured by the Porte to the holders of the Dardanelles and Alexandria line, this appears to Her Majesty's Government to be a fixed payment in consideration of the exclusive use of the line for four hours daily by the Turkish Government for the transmission of its despatches, and also in consideration of its reversionary right to the telegraph itself. It is not in the nature of a guarantee which could be affected by the profits accruing to the line, but is a payment for value received, and would be the same whatever might be the condition of the line. No loss, therefore, can possibly be incurred in this respect by the Turkish Government if they should restore matters to the position in which they stood previously to the new concession of February 1859, when the Dardanelles-Alexandria line was transferred from Mr. Gisborne to Messrs. Newall and Co.

Her Majesty's Government have read with great satisfaction your Excellency's able and energetic reply‡ to the statements of the Turkish Minister, and they rely with confidence on your continued exertions to bring the matter to a satisfactory settlement. You will let the Turkish Government clearly understand that Her Majesty's Government are determined to use every means in their power in order to prevent the communication between Europe and the East becoming the monopoly of any single line.

* See “Further Correspondence respecting the Establishment of Telegraphic Communications in the Mediterranean and with India,” presented to the House of Commons by command of Her Majesty, in pursuance of their Address dated June 30, 1859, and July 25, 1859, page 101.

† Ibid., page 112.

‡ Ibid., page 101.

No. 2.

Sir H. Bulwer to Lord J. Russell.—(Received October 31.)

My Lord,

Therapia, October 19, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a translation of the Porte's official note announcing to me, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, that the objectionable clause in the telegraphic concession to Messrs. Newall and Co. had been expunged from the grant.

In complying with Fuad Pasha's requisition that I should give him an official assurance that Messrs. Newall would not be supported in a claim for indemnity on account of the abrogation of the monopoly in question, I assured him, in the words used by your Lordship in your instruction of June 30, that no such support would be given.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY L. BULWER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

Fuad Pasha to Sir H. Bulwer.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Sublime Porte, le 11 Octobre, 1859.

LES dernières communications de votre Excellence concernant le câble sous-marin de Raguse, qui, suivant un accord intervenu entre l'Angleterre et l'Autriche, devra aboutir à Alexandrie d'Egypte, ont été l'objet de la plus sérieuse considération de la Sublime Porte.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Sultan a été péniblement impressionné de voir que toutes les considérations soumises à l'appréciation de celui de Sa Majesté la Reine n'ont pas été admises, comme nous l'espérons de ses sentiments de justice et d'équité. La Porte, loin de chercher dans l'affaire du télégraphe sous-marin entre les Cap Helles et Alexandrie, un intérêt pécuniaire, s'était imposée au contraire des sacrifices, sur la demande même de l'Angleterre, pour encourager une entreprise qui est d'une grande importance pour ses communications avec les Indes; et les privilèges exclusifs qu'elle avait accordés à la Compagnie Newall n'avait d'autre but que de donner d'une part quelques avantages à cette Compagnie pour l'encourager, et de chercher de l'autre quelque compensation en retour des sacrifices qu'elle s'était imposés en accordant à cette Compagnie une subvention de 4,500 livres sterling.

Pendant que le Gouvernement du Sultan travaillait avec ce sentiment d'amitié dont il est animé toujours envers l'Angleterre pour lui faire avoir une voie de communication télégraphique par Alexandrie, et qu'il faisait des efforts pour en créer une autre par la Mésopotamie, il n'a pu voir qu'avec un vif regret que le Gouvernement Britannique ait conclu un Traité avec l'Autriche, sans même en donner aucun avis à la Sublime Porte, et que ce Gouvernement, loin d'apprécier tous les motifs qui ont empêché le Cabinet Impérial d'accéder à sa réquisition, ait demandé l'annulation de certaines clauses de la Convention de Concession de Newall et Co.

Néanmoins le Gouvernement Impérial, pour donner une nouvelle preuve de ses sentiments de déférence envers celui de Sa Majesté la Reine, et de son désintéressement dans cette affaire, vient d'annuler l'Article 3 de la Concession du télégraphe électrique du Cap Helles à Alexandrie, et de le remplacer par l'Article 7 de la Concession Gisborne;* c'est ce qu'il vient d'annoncer à la Compagnie par une lettre dont votre Excellence trouvera la copie ci-jointe.

Quant à la pose du câble de Raguse à Alexandrie, votre Excellence comprendra facilement que le Gouvernement du Sultan n'y donnera pas son assentiment si elle n'est pas précédé de la participation à la négociation du Traité relatif à ce câble. Votre Excellence conviendra également que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté ne peut pas agir comme simple exécuteur d'un Traité conclu en dehors de lui, et qui concerne un point de son territoire.

Pour ce qui est des réclamations que pourraient soulever MM. Newall et Co. directement intéressés à la question, il est entendu que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique ne soutiendra jamais des prétentions à une indemnité que cette Compagnie peut avancer, et cela conformément aux assurances verbales que votre Excellence n'a cessé de nous donner jusqu'ici.

Je saisis, &c.

(Signé)

FUAD.

* See "Correspondence respecting the Establishment of Telegraphic Communications in the Mediterranean and with India," presented to the House of Commons by Command of Her Majesty, in pursuance of their Address dated May 4, 1858, p. 68.

(Translation.)

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Sublime Porte, October 11, 1859.

YOUR Excellency's recent communications concerning the Ragusa submarine cable, which according to an agreement made between England and Austria, is to terminate at Alexandria in Egypt, have been the subject of the most serious consideration on the part of the Sublime Porte.

The Government of His Majesty the Sultan has been painfully affected by perceiving that all the considerations submitted to the appreciation of the Government of Her Majesty the Queen have not been admitted, as we had hoped from its sentiments of justice and equity. The Porte, far from seeking any primary interest in the affairs of the submarine telegraph between Cape Hellas and Alexandria, had undertaken, at the request of England itself, sacrifices in order to encourage an enterprise which is of great importance to her communications with India; and the exclusive privileges which the Porte had granted to the Newall Company had no other object than, on the one part, to give some advantages to that Company for its encouragement, and, on the other, to obtain some compensation in return for the sacrifice which the Porte had made in granting to that Company a subsidy of 4,500*l.* sterling.

While the Government of the Sultan was labouring, with that feeling of friendship with which it is always animated towards England, in order to obtain for England a line of telegraphic communication by Alexandria, and while it was making endeavours to open another line by way of Mesopotamia, it cannot but have felt sincere regret on learning that the British Government had concluded a Treaty with Austria, without even informing the Sublime Porte thereof, and that the British Government, far from appreciating all the motives which have prevented the Sublime Porte from acceding to its requisition, has demanded the annulment of certain clauses in the Convention of concession to Messrs. Newall and Co.

Nevertheless, the Imperial Government, in order to give a new proof of its sentiments of deference towards the Government of the Queen, and of its disinterestedness in this affair, has annulled Article 3 of the Concession of the electric telegraph from Cape Hellas to Alexandria, and has substituted for it Article 7 of the Gisborne Concession.* The Porte has notified the same to the Company by a letter, of which I inclose to your Excellency a copy.

With regard to the laying down of the cable from Ragusa to Alexandria, your Excellency will readily understand that the Government of the Sultan cannot give its assent thereto, unless it be preceded by the participation of the Porte in the negotiation of the Treaty relative to that cable. Your Excellency will equally admit that the Government of Her Majesty cannot act as the mere instrument of carrying out a Treaty concluded without its participation, and which concerns a point of its territory.

As to the claims which may be preferred by Messrs. Newall and Co., who are directly interested in the question, it is understood that in conformity with the verbal assurance which your Excellency has constantly given to me hitherto, the Government of Her Britannic Majesty will never support any pretensions which that Company may make for indemnification.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) FUAD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 2.

*Fuad Pasha to Mr. Delamore.**Sublime Porte, le 11 Octobre, 1859.*

LE Ministre des Affaires Etrangères soussigné prévient M. Delamore, pour l'information immédiate de MM. R. S. Newall et Co., que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Sultan se trouve dans l'obligation d'annuler, et annule l'Article 3 de la Convention Télégraphique Sous-marine du Cap Helles à Alexandrie, et qu'il est obligé de le remplacer et qu'il le remplace par l'Article 7 de la Concession Gisborne, attendu que l'Article 3 susdit vient d'être reconnu comme contrevenant aux dispositions des Traités existants, et particulièrement de la Convention Télégraphique Austro-Ottomane.

Le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères croit devoir constater ici que M. Gisborne ayant une fois et MM. Newall et Co. par deux fois perdu leurs droits, et en ayant été déchus pour n'avoir pu remplir leurs engagements, ces concessionnaires ne peuvent avoir aucun droit à se plaindre de cette décision de la Sublime Porte.

* See Note, p. 2.

Le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères saisit cette occasion pour déclarer à MM. Newall et Co. que Sa Majesté le Sultan les autorise à poser le câble ou de Chio à Candie et Alexandria ou bien de Chio à Rhodes, Chypres, et la côte d'Egypte à leur choix, et que les ordres nécessaires seront en conséquence donnés aux autorités locales.

(Signé) FUAD.

(Translation.)

Sublime Porte, October 11, 1859.

THE Undersigned, Minister for Foreign Affairs, informs Mr. Delamore, for the immediate information of Messrs. R. S. Newall and Co., that the Government of His Majesty the Sultan finds itself under the necessity of annulling, and hereby annuls, Article 3 of the Convention for a submarine telegraph from Cape Hellas to Alexandria, and is obliged to substitute for it, and hereby substitutes, Article 7 of the Gisborne Concession, because the said Article 3 has been found to be at variance with the arrangements of existing Treaties, and particularly with the Austro-Ottoman Telegraphic Convention.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs thinks it right hereby to place upon record that Mr. Gisborne having once, and Messrs. Newall and Co. having twice lost their rights, and having forfeited them for not fulfilling their engagements, those concessionaries can have no right to complain of this decision of the Sublime Porte.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs avails himself of this opportunity to declare to Messrs. Newall and Co. that His Majesty the Sultan authorizes them to lay down the cable either from Chios to Candia and Alexandria, or from Chios to Rhodes, Cyprus, and the coast of Egypt, as they may prefer, and that the necessary orders will in consequence be given to the local authorities.

(Signed) FUAD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 2.

Sir H. Bulwer to Fuad Pasha.

Sir,

Therapia, October 19, 1859.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's official note dated the 11th instant, informing me that the objectionable clause inserted in the 3rd Article of the Concession granted to Messrs. Newall and Co. had been expunged from the grant.

In compliance with your Excellency's wishes, I have no hesitation in repeating in writing what I have already stated to you verbally, that Her Majesty's Government could not, under the circumstances of the case, lend support to any claim on the part of Messrs. Newall for compensation on account of the withdrawal by the Porte of the condition of which Her Majesty's Government have complained.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

No. 3.

Sir H. Bulwer to Lord J. Russell.—(Received December 10.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, November 25, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copy of an official note addressed to me by Fuad Pasha, inclosing copy of a protest from Messrs. Newall & Co. against the late decision by which the Porte rescinds the objectionable monopoly previously conceded to that Company. The object of this note is to place upon record its understanding of the pledge given by Her Majesty's Government not to support any claim to indemnity which that Company may bring forward respecting the matter in question.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

Fuad Pasha to Sir H. Bulwer.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Sublime Porte, le 14 Novembre, 1859.

SUIVANT les termes de l'entente intervenue entre la Porte et l'Ambassade Britannique, l'abrogation de l'Article 3 de la Concession du câble sous-marin du Cap Helles à Alexandrie a été notifiée à la Compagnie Newall.

Cette Compagnie s'est avisée depuis à protester par une lettre, dont je vous envoie la copie ci-jointe, contre cette décision, en voulant ainsi rendre le Gouvernement Impérial responsable des pertes qui en résulteraient.

La Porte ne pouvant accepter en aucune manière cette protestation, je me trouve placé dans la nécessité de prier votre Excellence de prendre acte de notre refus, et d'en faire part à votre Gouvernement, en lui rappelant ses assurances de ne pas admettre ni appuyer aucune demande d'indemnité à ce sujet.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) FUAD.

(Translation.)

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Sublime Porte, November 14, 1859.

ACCORDING to the terms of the understanding between the Porte and the British Embassy, the abrogation of Article 3 of the Concession of the submarine cable from Cape Hellas to Alexandria has been notified to the Newall Company.

The Company has since thought proper to protest against that decision by a letter, of which I send you a copy inclosed, seeking thus to render the Imperial Government responsible for the losses which may result therefrom.

The Porte being unable in any manner to accept this protest, I am under the necessity of requesting your Excellency to take note of our refusal, and to communicate it to your Government, reminding them of their assurances that they will neither admit nor support any demand for indemnification on this subject.

Accept, &c.
(Signed) FUAD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

Messrs. Newall & Co. to Fuad Pasha.

M. le Ministre,

Le 1 Novembre, 1859.

NOUS avons été profondément peiné et surpris en recevant la lettre de votre Excellence en date du 11 Octobre.

En réponse nous avons l'honneur de déclarer formellement à votre Excellence que nous sommes prêts à remplir tous nos engagements envers la Sublime Porte et de compléter la ligne télégraphique sous-marine jusqu'à Alexandrie, avant l'expiration de notre Convention, Juillet 1860, à condition que le Gouvernement Ottoman remplisse fidèlement ses obligations envers nous.

S'il advenait cependant que le Gouvernement Ottoman persistât dans sa résolution d'annuler le privilège exclusif qu'il nous a accordé, nous rejetons sur la Sublime Porte toute la responsabilité d'une décision aussi grave qu'injuste.

Confiant dans la bonne foi du Gouvernement Ottoman nous avons encouru des dépenses et des pertes énormes, et sommes prêts à compléter cette entreprise pourvu que la Sublime Porte nous confirme le privilège exclusif.

Si contre notre attente le Gouvernement Ottoman refuse de nous rendre cette justice, nous venons notifier par la présente à votre Excellence, que nous tiendrons la Sublime Porte responsable de toutes les dépenses que nous avons faites, ainsi que de la compensation due à nos intérêts lésés.

Nous prions votre Excellence de faire part de cette notification au Gouvernement Impérial.

Nous avons, &c.
(Signé) R. S. NEWALL & Co.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre,

November 1, 1859.

WE have been deeply pained and surprised to receive your Excellency's letter of the 11th of October.

In reply, we have the honour to declare formally to your Excellency that we are ready to fulfil all our engagements towards the Sublime Porte, and to complete the submarine telegraphic line to Alexandria before the expiration of our Convention, July 1860, on condition that the Ottoman Government faithfully fulfils its obligations towards us.

If, however, the Ottoman Government should persist in its resolution to annul the exclusive privilege which it has granted to us, we throw upon the Porte all the responsibility of a decision as grave as it is unjust.

Confiding in the good faith of the Ottoman Government, we have incurred enormous expenses and losses, and we are ready to complete this enterprise provided the Sublime Porte confirm to us the exclusive privilege.

If, contrary to our expectation, the Ottoman Government refuses to render us that justice, we hereby notify to your Excellency that we shall hold the Sublime Porte responsible for all the expenses we have incurred, as well as for the compensation due to our injured interests.

We request your Excellency to communicate this notification to the Imperial Government.

We have, &c.
(Signed) R. S. NEWALL & Co.

No. 4.

Lord J. Russell to Sir H. Bulwer.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 26, 1859.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency, for your information, copy of a note which I have received from M. Musurus, stating that Messrs. Newall and Co. have addressed to the Porte a claim for damages on account of the withdrawal of the Monopoly Clause in the Concession of the Dardanelles and Alexandria telegraph, and that Fuad Pasha has handed such claim over to your Excellency. I also inclose a copy of the answer which I have returned to M. Musurus.

I need hardly add to what is stated in those papers, that I approve of your Excellency having, as stated in your despatch of the 19th ultimo, given to Fuad Pasha an official assurance that Her Majesty's Government would not support any such claim on the part of Messrs. Newall & Co.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.*

M. Musurus to Lord J. Russell.

My Lord,

Bryanstone Square, le 17 Novembre, 1859.

EN me référant à la note que son Excellence Fuad Pacha a adressée à son Excellence Sir Henry Bulwer en date du 11 Octobre dernier,* pour lui communiquer que la Sublime Porte, en accédant à la demande du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, avait annulé l'Article 3 de la Concession faite à Messrs. Newall et Cie., du télégraphe électrique du Cap Hellès à Alexandrie, et l'avait remplacé par l'Article 7 de la Concession Gisborne, j'ai l'honneur de porter à la connaissance de votre Excellence que je viens de recevoir une dépêche télégraphique de son Excellence Fuad Pacha par laquelle il m'informe que Messrs. Newall et Cie. lui ayant adressé une protestation pour dommages-intérêts, il a dû la restituer à l'Ambassade Britannique, en la dénonçant comme tout-à-fait contraire à l'entente intervenue entre les deux Gouvernements à l'occasion de l'annulation susmentionnée, et m'invite à dénoncer, de mon côté, officiellement cette protestation auprès du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique.

En m'acquittant par la présente note des instructions de mon Gouvernement je saisis, &c.

(Signé) C. MUSURUS.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Bryanstone Square, November 17, 1859.

WITH reference to the note which his Excellency Fuad Pasha addressed to his Excellency Sir Henry Bulwer on the 11th October last, for the purpose of informing him

* Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

that the Sublime Porte, in compliance with the demand of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, had annulled Article 3 of the Concession granted to Messrs. Newall and Co. for the electric telegraph from Cape Hellas to Alexandria, and had substituted for it Article 7 of Gisborne's Concession, I have the honour to acquaint your Excellency that I have just received a telegraphic despatch from his Excellency Fuad Pasha, whereby he informs me that Messrs. Newall and Co. having addressed to him a formal protest for damages, he has felt himself bound to hand over the same to the British Embassy, declaring it to be wholly contrary to the understanding between the two Governments on the occasion of the annulment above-mentioned, and he instructs me, on my part, officially to communicate such declaration to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty.

In fulfilling by the present note the instructions of my Government, I avail, &c.
(Signed) MUSURUS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 4.

Earl Russell to M. Musurus.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Foreign Office, November 26, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 17th instant, acquainting me that Messrs. Newall and Co. have addressed to the Porte a claim for damages on account of the withdrawal of the clause in the Concession made to them of the line of electric telegraph from Cape Helles to Alexandria, which forbade the connection of any foreign line with that line, and that his Excellency Fuad Pasha had handed over such claim to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople.

I have the honour to state to your Excellency in reply, that Her Majesty's Government will lend no support to the claim of Messrs. Newall and Co. upon the Porte, nor can they admit that Messrs. Newall and Co. have any claim upon Her Majesty's Government in consequence of the withdrawal of the clause in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 5.

Messrs. Newall & Co. to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 16.)

My Lord,

24, Abingdon Street, Westminster, March 15, 1861.

WE beg to submit for your consideration the inclosed correspondence which we have held with Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople in reference to a claim made by us for a large amount against the Turkish Government.

Your Lordship will perceive by that correspondence that our application to Her Majesty's Ambassador is, that he will perform a purely ministerial function in our behalf, so as to enable us to have our claim heard and determined by the only tribunal capable of entertaining it.

Your Lordship is aware that in Turkey a Mixed Commission to inquire into any claim of a British subject cannot be appointed, or will not be granted, by the Turkish Government without a request from the British Ambassador, and we have always understood that such a request, upon a proper application by a British subject, is as much a matter of course as it is for the tribunals of this country to entertain any suit which may be properly instituted.

Sir H. Bulwer having, however, declined to exercise this function without express instructions from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State, our present object in addressing your Lordship is to request that those instructions may be furnished, and respectfully to urge that we are in justice entitled to what we now ask at your Lordship's hands.

We have, &c.
(Signed) R. S. NEWALL & Co.

Inclosure 1 in No. 5.

Messrs. Newall & Co. to Sir H. Bulwer.

Sir,

Constantinople, December 6, 1859.

THE Sublime Porte having granted to us a concession for a line of telegraph from Cape Hellas to Alexandria, by way of Chios and Candia, we proceeded some time since to
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execute the works which, in pursuance of the terms of such concession, we had undertaken.

By the 3rd Article of the Concession it is provided that the Turkish Government "shall not permit the establishment of any other lines of electric telegraph between the dominions of other Powers and the Mediterranean coast of the Ottoman Empire in Asia and Egypt."

The Article in question concludes by making an exception in favour of Greece to the above stipulations, on the ground that the Porte had previously agreed with the Hellenic Government that a line from Chios to Syra should be permitted.

On the faith of this and the other stipulations to which the Sublime Porte was bound by the Concession, we laid submarine cables from Cape Hellas to Chios, and thence to Candia. We also made three attempts at laying a cable between Candia and Alexandria, but without success. It is scarcely necessary to state that these unsuccessful attempts, as well as the laying of the cable to Candia, involved a very large outlay.

On the 11th October last we had more than nine months of our Concession, as extended by the Turkish Government, unexpired, in which time it was our intention to complete the line to Alexandria, pursuant to the terms of our agreement.

On that day a letter was written by his Excellency Fuad Pasha, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, to Mr. De la More, our representative at Constantinople, intimating that the Turkish Government intended to annul, and did thereby annul, the 3rd Article of the Concession. From that letter, a copy of which is inclosed herewith, it will appear to your Excellency that the Minister for Foreign Affairs has stated that we can have no right to complain of the course taken by his Government, inasmuch as we had more than once forfeited our rights by lapse of time.

His Excellency must have forgotten that on such occasion the time was extended by the Porte before any such forfeiture had occurred. Independently of this fact, it were sufficient to answer his Excellency's observations on that point by remarking simply that the Sublime Porte having chosen to extend the term of the Concession, could under no circumstances be permitted to set up such an excuse of its breach of faith. The term of the Concession having been formally extended until July 1860, our rights under that document are just as unimpeachable as if such had been the period already fixed.

Finding ourselves thus deprived of the benefit of the one clause in our agreement with the Sublime Porte which made it worth our while to bear the very heavy outlay which our project necessitated, we at once addressed to his Excellency Fuad Pasha the letter of which a copy is also inclosed.

No answer having been vouchsafed to that letter, and it being altogether out of the question, our continuing the projected line of telegraph under the new conditions sought to be imposed upon us by the Sublime Porte, we have no alternative but to insist on compensation being made to us by the Turkish Government for the heavy outlay which its breach of faith has rendered futile, as well as for the loss of profits which should have accrued to us from the Concession, with the exclusive privilege granted by the 3rd Article.

We have, therefore, respectfully to request that such measures as to your Excellency may seem fit, may be taken for the purposes of obtaining compensation for the injury occasioned us.

In the meantime we venture to inquire of your Excellency to what extent we may count upon the support and assistance of Her Majesty's Government in the matter.

It would be impossible for us at the present moment to state the precise amount of our claim for damages, but we hold ourselves in readiness so to do within a very short time should your Excellency require information on that point.

We have, &c.

(Signed) R. S. NEWALL & Co.

Inclosure 2 in No. 5.

Sir H. Bulwer to Messrs. Newall & Co.

Gentlemen,

Constantinople, December 12, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant.

Her Majesty's Government, to which I refer you, has informed me that it would not support any claim for indemnity arising from the abrogation of that clause in the Concession which was superadded to the original Concession granted to Mr. Gisborne.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 5.

Messrs. Newall & Co. to Sir H. Bulwer.

Sir, *Constantinople, February 15, 1861.*
 SOME fourteen months since we had the honour of addressing to your Excellency a letter of which a copy is inclosed herewith.

Since that time a great deal of correspondence, and a number of documents relating to the Telegraph Concession mentioned in that letter, have been published by order of the House of Commons.

From these it appears that his Excellency Fuad Pasha, on being pressed by the Austrian Government for a firman authorizing the landing of a telegraphic cable at Alexandria, stated that such a course was impossible in the face of the engagements entered into by the Porte with Messrs. Newall and Co.,

It further appears that in answer to a communication from your Excellency, Fuad Pasha declined to do any act in contravention of the third clause of our Concession, on the ground that such a proceeding would subject the Ottoman Government to a heavy claim for compensation on our part; and he even intimates that it would thus involve a sacrifice of 500,000*l.*

Yet the Porte deliberately incurred such liability by subsequently annulling the third clause of our Concession.

Owing to the peculiar state of affairs in this country, and to the absence of any tribunal in which the Government may be sued by foreigners, it has been the uniform custom of Her Majesty's Representatives in Constantinople to insist on the nomination of Mixed Commissions to hear and determine claims having some apparent foundation, preferred by British subjects against the Sublime Porte.

This custom has also prevailed with the other foreign Legations, in the interest of those whom it is their duty to protect.

Such being the mode of settling demands, which are frequently open to much doubt, we venture to submit that your Excellency can have no objection to setting the usual machinery in motion on behalf of a claim the justice of which has been admitted by the Turkish Government.

We have, therefore, the honour to request that your Excellency will be pleased to insist on the nomination, in the customary manner, of a Mixed Commission, to hear and determine our claim to compensation for the breach of our contract with the Porte, dated the 16th of February, 1859.

We have, &c.
 (Signed) R. S. NEWALL & Co.,
 By CHARLES P. BUTT, their Attorney.

Inclosure 4 in No. 5.

Sir H. Bulwer to Mr. Butt.

Sir, *Constantinople, February 18, 1861.*
 I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of the letter which you addressed to me on the 15th instant, as the attorney of Messrs. R. S. Newall and Co., requesting that I should insist on the nomination of a Mixed Commission to hear and determine their claim to compensation, for a breach of their contract with the Porte of February 16, 1859.

Having so far back as the 12th December, 1859, referred Messrs. Newall to Her Majesty's Government on this matter, I regret to be under the necessity of repeating to you that I can take no steps towards urging this claim on the attention of the Porte without instructions from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

Inclosure 5 in No. 5.

Messrs. Newall & Co. to Sir H. Bulwer.

Sir, *Constantinople, February 26, 1861.*
 WE beg to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 18th instant, in which you are pleased to refer us to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State, without

whose instructions you decline to take any step towards urging our claim on the attention of the Porte.

Now, Sir, whilst Her Majesty has a Representative in Constantinople, an application to any member of her Government in England is, we venture to submit, a course which we can by no means be expected to take.

Your Excellency is doubtless more competent than we to determine what our rights in the matter may be; nor should we presume to address you a second time, did we not think that some misapprehension must have arisen from a neglect on our part to place before you the grounds on which we conceive that the request contained in our letter of the 15th instant cannot legitimately be refused.

The following observations are therefore, with the utmost respect, submitted to your Excellency's consideration:—

1. The mutual duties of protection and subjection existing between the Sovereign and her subjects are not abrogated by the fact of the latter residing or trading in parts beyond the dominions of Her Majesty. The allegiance due by the subject to the Crown remains a duty of paramount importance in whatever part of the world he may happen to be, and implies a reciprocal title to protection.

2. To your Excellency, as representing the person of Her Majesty, is confided the charge of watching over and protecting the interests of her subjects in this country. To you, therefore, and not to any Secretary of State, or other servant of Her Majesty, we are entitled to look for that amount of support and assistance, which theory and practice alike accord to British subjects and British interests here.

What, then, is the nature and extent of the protection a subject of Her Majesty may reasonably expect in this country at the hands of his Sovereign?

It will not be contested that a British subject, carrying on business in Turkey, is entitled to some support and assistance beyond bare protection of his person and property. His claims against natives of this country are matter of daily care and solicitude on the part of Her Majesty's subjects in the Ottoman Empire. The ensuring due course to such demands in the tribunals of the country forms one of the chief duties of the Consular officers in Turkey, and when from any cause their legitimate authority and influence fail, recourse is had to the Ambassador.

Such a provision for the interests of British subjects would, but for one circumstance, be all sufficing. It happens, however, that there is no Court in Turkey competent to hear and determine suits between foreigners and the Ottoman Government. The Consular officers are consequently unable to give course to such suits. Hence arose a practice ratified by its observance through a long series of years, by which, as stated in our letter of the 15th instant, Her Majesty's Ambassadors have uniformly demanded the nomination of Mixed Commissions for the settlement of questions between British subjects and the Turkish Government.

It is not necessary to seek far for the principle from which this custom reposes.

To such an extent has it prevailed, that we venture to say your Excellency has no more right to deny course to a good *prima facie* claim against the Ottoman Government than would the Consul or Consular Judge to one preferred against any of its subjects.

In the face of the correspondence which has been published by order of the House of Commons, and of Fuad Pasha's direct admissions to that effect, therein contained, it will scarcely be pretended that we have not at all events a *prima facie* claim to compensation from the Ottoman Government.

For that claim, as a matter of justice and not of favour, we ask a hearing. Nor can we readily believe that your Excellency, as the Representative of a Sovereign whose high prerogative it is to be regarded by her people as the fountain of justice, will on mature reflection refuse to take the ordinary steps for satisfying so legitimate a demand.

We have, &c.

(Signed) R. S. NEWALL & Co.,
Pro CHARLES P. BUTT.

Inclosure 6 in No. 5.

Sir H. Bulwer to Mr. Butt.

Sir,

Constantinople, February 28, 1861.

YOU are perfectly correct in stating that in ordinary cases when a British subject conceives he has a right to make a demand on the Turkish Government, I should feel myself authorized to adopt the course I thought necessary in his behalf; but as there has

already been a correspondence between Her Majesty's Embassy and Her Majesty's Government relative to the claim now brought forward by Mr. Newall, I can take no step in that matter, unless by the instructions of Her Majesty's Secretary of State.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER

Inclosure 7 in No. 5.

Messrs. Newall & Co. to Sir H. Bulwer.

Sir,

Constantinople, March 1, 1861.

IN reply to your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date we take the liberty of observing:—

1. That the case in which we asked your intervention was not put forward merely as one where "a British subject conceives he has a right to make demand on the Turkish Government," but as one in which the Turkish Minister himself has expressed a like opinion.

2. That in our letter of the 26th ultimo, we did not intend that your Excellency should "feel yourself authorized to adopt the course you thought necessary" in our behalf; but that it was incumbent on you, as Her Majesty's Representative here, to adopt the particular course which justice and precedent prescribe, and which we took the liberty of pointing out.

If, then, our letter were "perfectly correct" in any sense, we can only attach one meaning to the answer your Excellency has vouchsafed thereto, viz., that you are prohibited from obtaining for us the measure of justice meted out to other British subjects, because it so pleases Her Majesty's Secretary of State.

This may be a reason perfectly satisfactory to your Excellency's mind, but it is consonant neither with English institutions nor with English instincts.

Practically, it is to condemn us without a hearing.

Your Excellency will, therefore, know how to excuse us, if we do not acquiesce in a decision as repugnant to every impulse of our fellow-countrymen as it is injurious to ourselves.

We have, &c.
(Signed) R. S. NEWALL & Co.,
Pro CHARLES P. BUTT.

No. 6.

Sir H. Bulwer to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 19.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, March 2, 1861.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 26th November, 1859, instructing me not to urge upon the Porte the payment of a claim preferred by Messrs. Newall for breach of contract in respect to a telegraph concession, I have the honour to transmit herewith copies of a correspondence which has recently passed between Messrs. Newall's attorney and myself on that subject, and I consider that I acted properly in declining to do anything in the matter without instructions from your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

Inclosures in No. 6.

Correspondence between Sir H. Bulwer and Messrs. Newall & Co.

[See Inclosures 3 to 7 in No. 5.]

No. 7.

Mr. Hammond to Messrs. Newall & Co.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, May 3, 1861.

I AM directed by Lord John Russell to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th of March last, inclosing copies of a correspondence which has taken place between you and Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople on the subject of the withdrawal by the Porte of the 3rd Article of a Concession of the line of telegraph from Cape Hellas to Alexandria. It appears that you asked Sir Henry Bulwer to obtain from the Turkish Government the appointment of a Mixed Commission to inquire into your claim upon the Porte for compensation for such withdrawal; and as his Excellency declined to do so without instructions from Her Majesty's Government, you request Lord John Russell to give him such instructions.

The Article to which you refer provided, on the one hand, that the holders of the Concession should not connect the Hellas and Alexandria line with any telegraph from foreign countries, nor transmit messages passing or arriving except by the places in the Ottoman dominions at which it touches; and, on the other hand, that the Turkish Government should not permit the establishment of any other lines of electric telegraph between the dominions of other Powers and the Mediterranean coast of the Ottoman Empire. The effect of it would, therefore, have been to secure to the Hellas and Alexandria line for the long period of fifty years, for which the Concession was granted, a monopoly of the communication between India and Europe.

Such a monopoly would, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, have been at variance with public policy, and prejudicial to British interests, which made it desirable that alternative lines of communication should be established. Moreover, the Article in question was not contained in the original Concession of the Hellas and Alexandria line, but was introduced in the new Concession signed on the 16th of February, 1859, when both the Porte and the grantees had been long aware of the plan in course of arrangement between the British and Austrian Governments for the establishment of a line of telegraph from Ragusa to Alexandria. That plan, as well as any other for an independent line between Alexandria and Europe, would have been defeated by the bargain for a monopoly introduced into the Concession of February 1859.

As soon, therefore, as that bargain became known to Her Majesty's Government, it formed the subject of strong remonstrances with the Porte; and the result was that the Porte withdrew the 3rd Article of the Concession, on receiving from Her Majesty's Government an official assurance that they would not support any claim on your part arising out of the suppression of the Article in question.

Under these circumstances it is not possible for Lord John Russell to interfere in the matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 8.

Lord J. Russell to Sir H. Bulwer.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 4, 1861.

I ENTIRELY approve the course which your Excellency pursued, as reported in your despatch of the 2nd of March last, with regard to the application of Messrs. Newall and Co. for your assistance, in order to bring before the Turkish Government their claim for compensation for the withdrawal by the Porte of the 3rd Article of the Concession granted to them in February 1859, of the line of telegraph from Cape Hellas to Alexandria.

Messrs. Newall and Co. have forwarded to me copies of the correspondence inclosed in your Excellency's despatch, with an application for the interposition of Her Majesty's Government on their behalf; and I transmit to you, for your information and guidance, a copy of the answer which I have caused to be returned to their letter.*

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 9.

Messrs. Newall & Co. to Lord J. Russell.—(Received May 25.)

My Lord,

24, Abingdon Street, Westminster, May 24, 1861.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Hammond's letter of the 3rd instant, in which, though admitting that the withdrawal by the Porte of the 3rd Article of our Concession was the result of action on the part of Her Majesty's Government, he states that it is not possible for your Lordship to interfere in the matter.

Under these circumstances, considering ourselves aggrieved by your Lordship, acting in your character of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State on behalf of Her Majesty, we have the honour to inform you respectfully that we have determined to proceed for compensation under the Petitions of Right Act, 1860, by way of petition to Her Majesty.

We have, &c.

(Signed) R. S. NEWALL & Co.

*Presented to the House of Commons, by Command
of Her Majesty, in pursuance of their Address
dated May 7, 1863.*

LONDON :

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

REVOLUTION IN GREECE:

OCTOBER 1862.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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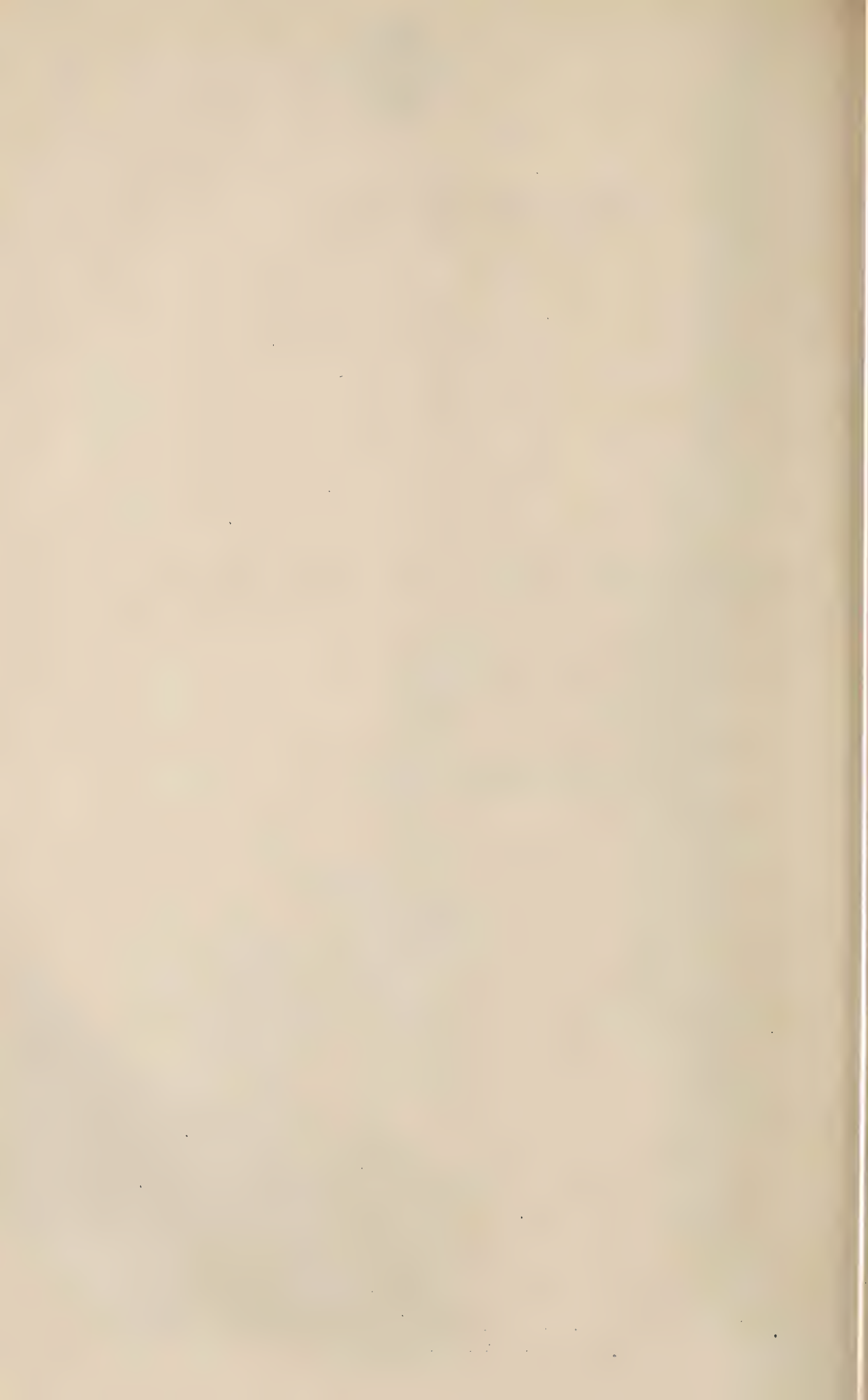


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Correspondence respecting the Revolution in Greece,
October 1862.

No. 1.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received October 25.)

(Extract.)

Athens, October 16, 1862.

THE King and Queen of Greece embarked, on the night of the 13th instant, on board the Greek frigate "Amélie," with the intention of visiting several ports and provinces of the dominions of His Hellenic Majesty.

Their absence will, I understand, be of twenty days' duration.

The Royal party have now visited Hydra, Spezzia, and Astros, where, M. Dragoumis assures me, they have been well received.

The intention, I believe, of their Majesties is to avoid Nauplia, and go round to Missolonghi and Patras before they return to Athens.

No. 2.

Mr. Elliot to Mr. Hammond.—(Received October 28.)

Sir,

Downing Street, October 27, 1862.

I AM directed by the Duke of Newcastle to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Russell, a copy of a despatch from the Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands, forwarding reports from his Resident at Santa Maura, on the subject of the insurrection which has taken place on the neighbouring continent of Greece.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. FREDK. ELLIOT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

Sir H. Storks to the Duke of Newcastle.

My Lord Duke,

Corfu, October 21, 1862.

I HAD the honour to communicate to your Grace by telegraph, on the 18th instant, a report of an outbreak on the part of the troops, which had taken place in the Greek province of Acarnania, in the immediate neighbourhood of Santa Maura.

I have now the honour to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, copies of the Reports which reached me by express on the 18th instant, from my Resident at Santa Maura, and also a statement made by the Captain of the Port at Vonitza, who with other parties have sought refuge in Ionian territory. Since then I have received further Reports, copies of which are inclosed.

The notorious General Grivas appears to be at the head of the revolutionary movement which has taken place, and a Provisional Government is said to have been established at Vonitza and its neighbourhood.

I have desired my Resident at Santa Maura to observe the most absolute and positive neutrality on the occasion; to afford an asylum and hospitality to all that claim it; and to report to me any violation of Ionian territory on the part of the insurgents or others.

Vice-Admiral Sir William Martin has dispatched Her Majesty's ship "Icarus" to Santa Maura, and Her Majesty's ship "Algiers" is on the coast of Greece, near Missolonghi.

The most perfect tranquillity prevails throughout the Ionian States, and these revo-

lutionary movements in Greece create neither sympathy nor excitement. I am inclined to hope that the Ionian people are beginning to appreciate the blessings of security and good government which they enjoy in so eminent a degree.

I have not been able to visit the Southern Islands, as I reported to your Grace it was my intention to do, as I have thought it desirable, under present circumstances, not to quit the seat of Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. E. STORKS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 2.

Reports from Mr. d'Everton.

AT a late hour on the evening of the 15th instant the Greek Consular Agent presented himself at the Residency with a despatch received by express from Vomitza, stating that their Majesties the King and Queen of Greece were expected next day at Paleocaglia, in our immediate vicinity; that their Majesties intended to land at Paleocaglia and to proceed thence, by way of Vomitza, on a tour along the Greek frontier on the side of Turkey; and that an escort of thirty mounted gendarmes and a company of troops of the line were on their march to Paleocaglia, for the purpose of forming the Royal escort.

The Consul, at the same time, hinted at discontent prevailing among the troops and the population generally, and at plans for seizing the persons of the King and Queen during their progress into the interior.

Next day sinister reports, to the same purport, were received by our Agents of Police stationed at Fort Alexander, by whom also the arrival at Paleocaglia of the escort above referred to was reported.

Their Majesties, however, did not arrive as was expected. But, late in the afternoon, a considerable movement was observed along the Greek shore of the lagoon, and a crowd of men, women, and children were observed crossing our frontier line from Fort Teké, in the direction of the fort of Santa Maura.

No time was lost in opening communications with the refugees, who were received and lodged for the night in the Quarantine and other Government buildings in the vicinity of the fort. They stated, in brief terms, that an armed insurrection had broken out in Greece, and that they had fled to escape the outrages to which they were exposed from a licentious soldiery. The depositions of the most intelligent of these unfortunate people were taken by the Director of Police. I regret that time does not allow of their being translated; I therefore forward them in original.

The proceedings which marked the actual commencement of the outbreak are detailed with sufficient minuteness in the deposition of the Health Deputy of Vomitza, who being at Paleocaglia on duty at the time, was able to elude the vigilance of the mutineers, and made good his escape to our territory.

The revolt appears to bear a character almost exclusively military.

We have received no direct and reliable reports of the progress of the insurgents. It is to be feared, however, that they have been joined by the garrison of Vomitza, and that the fort of that place, said to be well furnished with military stores of all descriptions, is in their hands.

General Grivas is regarded as one of the leaders in the movement.

It is satisfactory to be able to state that incidents so exciting and eventful have caused scarcely any sensation in this town and island. An outbreak in Greece bearing a political character has long been looked forward to as a thing certain, and therefore, now that it has occurred, it causes less surprise. We are, however, on the alert, and should any symptoms of turbulence make their appearance, they shall be promptly dealt with.

(Signed) C. S. D'EVERTON.

Resident's Office, Santa Maura, October 17, 1862.

Santa Maura, October 17, 1862, 9 P.M.

I HAVE thought it my duty to forward by express a report of the occurrences of this morning on the opposite side of the lagoon. They are grave, and may lead to serious consequences.

Since my official despatch was closed, the arrival of a Turkish naval officer from Prevesa enables me to add that, in the course of last night, the troops in garrison at Vomitza broke out in open mutiny or revolt, Grivas' brother-in-law Staicos, from Misso-

longhi, acting as a principal instigator. The outbreak was announced by the firing of the guns of the fort, and caused great consternation among the people of the town, who appear to take no part in the movement. On the contrary, great preparations had been made in the course of the day for giving a loyal reception to the Sovereigns expected to arrive on the morrow. Several families of respectability have sought a refuge on the Turkish territory. The Turks seemed prepared for any aggressive movement from the Greek side. There are two battalions (one of Artillery) in Prevesa, two regiments of Arta, a strong force at Joanina, both of Regulars and Irregulars, and strong detachments at different points along the frontier.

I shall endeavour to procure more precise accounts of what is going on in Vonitza, so as to be able to report by Sunday's steamer. Here all is quiet as usual.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. S. D'EVERTON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 2.

Report from Signor Ziallina.

(Translation.)

Health Office Department, Santa Maura, October 17, 1862.

SIGNOR DEMETRIO N. LELLI, Captain of the Port, and Health Officer of Vonitza, deposes as follows:—

Yesterday morning early I reached Paleocaglia in the Sanità boat from Vonitza, for the purpose of paying my respects to His Majesty the King of Greece, who, according to official notice, was expected to arrive there; where also the Colonel and Mirarch of Gendarmerie, Signor P. Zani, with 30 mounted police and 60 soldiers of the line, had arrived in order to receive His Majesty.

About 2 o'clock this morning, while the Mirarch, I, and a servant of the former were asleep in a room of the Health Office, several soldiers broke into the apartment with shouts, armed with their muskets, and pointing their bayonets at our breasts ordered us not to dare to stir, otherwise they would kill us, and instantly to shout "Long live the Nation!" "Long live the Constitution!" "Down with the System!" expressions which they compelled us to repeat thrice; at the same time they commanded the Mirarch to give orders to the mounted police to lay down their arms, and to join in shouting as above, which they did.

Subsequently the same soldiers, who, it is to be observed, had been marched to Paleocaglia under the orders of the Mirarch, and who belong to the above-mentioned regiment of the line, procured ropes, and bound the hands of the Mirarch, having previously deprived him of his sword.

Simultaneously they proposed to bind the officers in command of the 60 men above alluded to, who slept in an adjoining room; but a non-commissioned officer of the same corps came forward and persuaded them not to execute their intention, because he was ready to pledge himself for the devotedness of his officer to their cause.

Whilst this was going on they had arrested and bound the Representative for Vonitza, Signor Gerothanassi, and two serjeants of constabulary who were lodged in a different quarter, and whom I have reason to believe they carried along with them to the house of General Grivas, because, on a question arising about procuring forage for the horses, the soldiers shouted out that the General had the means of supplying them with corn in abundance.

Subsequently, and after the soldiers and the gendarmes had retired, being in terror of my life, because I had heard the soldiers demanding money with threats from the Health Office Deputy, Economopulos, I escaped to my boat, and took refuge here.

Read and confirmed.

(Signed)

DEMETRIO N. LELLI.

(Signed)

P. ZIALLINA, *Captain of the Port.*

Inclosure 4 in No. 2.

Reports from Mr. d'Everton.

Substance of Reports received up to 9 o'clock P.M., October 18, 1862, relative to the Proceedings of the Insurgents in Vonizza and its vicinity.

ON the afternoon of Friday the 17th instant General Grivas entered Vonizza under a salute from the Castle, and assumed the command of the insurgent forces. A Provisional Government was formed. For the national flag a tri-coloured flag has been substituted; and also a red flag displayed. The soldiers wear a piece of red ribbon in their shakos.

B ?

This morning (18th October) the insurgents fired upon the armed cruiser lying at anchor in the roadstead. She was boarded by a party of soldiers, captured, and the Commander conveyed a prisoner to the fort. An officer and part of the crew of the schooner jumped into the boats alongside, and succeeded in escaping to Prevesa.

The Eparch, Director of Police, and Malaux, Major of Gendarmerie, had also fled.

A party of 160 soldiers, with some officers, who remain true to their colours, had taken up a strong position on the Prevesa side of the harbour, where they were attacked this morning by the revolted, who were unable to dislodge them. Two men are said to have been killed, and two wounded in the affair.

There are only four artillerymen in the fort. The rebels meet with no sympathy among the great bulk of the population.

Colonel Cypriano is in command at Caravassera, with about 450 of the 5th Regiment, who are supposed to be true to their colours. The 160 men who repulsed the attack of the insurgents on their position at Vonitza belong to this regiment.

At Caravassera no insurrectionary movement had taken place.

(Signed) E. S. D'EVERTON.

N.B.—This has been contradicted by later accounts.

(Extract.)

Santa Maura, October 18, 1862, 10.30 P.M.

The garrison of Caravassera has mutinied. The officer in command, Cazanzà, got away, and made for Vonitza, which he found in the power of the insurgents, whom he refused to join. He was immediately arrested, and lodged in the Castle, where Colonel Isani and the officers arrested at Paleocaglià are also lodged.

The Eparch and other authorities of Vonitza had sent all their valuables on board the gun-boat, and, along with the gun-boat herself, fell into the hands of the rebels. The guns and arms found in the vessel were conveyed to the fort.

The Provisional Government no longer allows the inhabitants to leave the Greek territory.

The Castle of Vonitza was at first placed under the command of Demetrio Staicos (Grivas' brother-in-law), and a certain Dr. Mavrojanni (formerly a member of the Greek Parliament, if I mistake not). Afterwards the command was assumed by Grivas on his arrival.

In the fort there are 180 Regulars. These, with 300 who accompanied Grivas and Staicos' followers, about 60 in number, 540 in all, constitute the rebel force in Vonitza.

(Signed) E. S. D'EVERTON.

Inclosure 5 in No. 2.

Vice-Consul Weale to Sir H. Storks.

(Extract.)

Prevesa, October 19, 1862.

DOUBTLESS you are already aware of passing events on the Greek frontier, opposite us. However, I will let you have a résumé of our news here.

The troops have all revolted, and those officers who hold out still, are, as soon as they are taken, lodged in the fortresses.

An encounter took place the other day at Vonitza between the revolted and the Opposition party, which ended in the submission of the latter, with a death or two on both sides. It would appear at present that the movement is to overturn King Otho's Government, as at Caravassera. The troops were heard to shout in Greek, "Viva la libertà!" "Viva il successore!"

Grivas (Teodoro) is the leading man, and at the head of the Provisional Government, which is already formed, and acting in the district.

Our authorities here are on the *qui vive*, but still fear an incursion in Epirus.

I hear from Caravassera all is quiet there, and that the merchants and others of the upper class have been called upon to advance money to defray necessary expenses.

Nothing is known here of the whereabouts of the King and Queen, who were expected at Paleocaglià from Missolonghi, on a tour along the frontier.

I am in private correspondence with the Resident of Santa Maura, Baron d'Everton, upon the subject.

All is quiet here at present, and I do not think the Christians are disposed to take part with those opposite.

P.S.—Grivas was to have left Vonitza yesterday for Caravassera.

No. 3.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received October 28.)

Sir, *Admiralty, October 27, 1862.*
I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir William F. Martin, dated the 20th instant, relative to the state of affairs in Greece.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMANE.

Inclosure in No. 3.

Vice-Admiral Martin to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

My Lord, *"Marlborough," at Corfu, October 20, 1862.*
I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that intelligence has been received here of a military revolt having broken out in Acarnania, Greece.

General Grivas, who was the leader of the recent revolt at Nauplia, is at the head of this movement also. The large garrison of Vonitza has pronounced against the Government, and the movement is expected to spread to Missolonghi, in anticipation of which the "Algiers" has been sent there for the protection of British interests.

In consequence of this revolt the "Icarus" left to-day for Santa Maura with despatches from the Lord High Commissioner, and to remain there until further orders.

The "Queen" will be detained here until the 22nd by courts-martial, immediately after which she will return to Athens to replace the "Scylla," ordered to the coast of Syria. The "Pelican" is at the Piræus, and will remain under the orders of the Senior Officer there.

No symptoms have yet appeared of the inhabitants in Acarnania joining in the revolt, though it is undeniable that the King and the Ministry continue to be in the highest degree unpopular.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. F. MARTIN.

No. 4.

Mr. Elliot to Mr. Hammond.—(Received October 31.)

Sir, *Downing Street, October 30, 1862.*
I AM directed by the Duke of Newcastle to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Russell, a copy of a despatch that has been received from Sir Henry Storks, respecting the affairs of Greece.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. FREDK. ELLIOT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

Sir H. Storks to the Duke of Newcastle.

My Lord Duke, *Corfu, October 23, 1862.*
WITH reference to my telegraphic despatch of this date, I have the honour to report to your Grace that the Greek revolutionary movement which began in the Province of Acarnania has extended to the Morea, and that a Provisional Government has been established at Patras.

2. The members of the Provisional Government are moderate men, of character and good sense, and belong to the party of the Reformers. Their names are as follows:—

M. Ruffos, a member of the late Chamber of Deputies.

M. A. Lontos, President of the late Chamber.

M. P. Papadimantopulos, landholder in the neighbourhood of Patras.

M. D. Bukauris, a military officer.

M. S. Sotiriades, a rich landed proprietor.

3. The Provisional Government have published a proclamation, a translation of which I transmit for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

4. The troops in Patras are reported to have joined the movement, and the Captain of the Greek gun-boat in the port has placed himself and his vessel at the disposal of the Provisional Government.

5. The King and Queen are on a tour in the provinces, and were last heard of at Calamata in the Morea.

It is reported that great agitation prevailed in Athens, but no outbreak had taken place up to the 20th instant.

6. Vice-Admiral Sir William Martin has sent Her Majesty's ship "Queen" to Athens; she sailed this morning.

7. Captain Rice, of Her Majesty's ship "Algiers," who arrived this morning from Patras, and who was present when the outbreak in that town took place, reports that the most perfect order prevailed, and everything wore a holiday appearance.

8. People ashore, and in a steamer which came under the stern of the "Algiers," cheered loudly "Viva Inghilterra!" The Provisional Government assured Captain Rice that they would and could maintain the public peace and security.

9. Fears, however, were entertained of a visit from General Grivas and his followers, who put the town of Patras under contribution in 1848.

10. The Ionian Islands are perfectly quiet. My Resident at Zante reports that there seems no inclination on the part of the Greeks resident in that island, nor the Ionians, to leave in numbers for Greece, although the sympathy in favour of the movement is almost general.

The same may be said of the feeling which exists in the other islands composing these States. Although the movement seems conducted at Patras with perfect order, and every disposition to maintain tranquillity is exhibited, brigandage has, of course, commenced in Greece. My Resident in Ithaca reports that a butcher from Ithaca, who went to the mainland near Mitica to purchase cattle, has been seized, and a message sent to his friends that if 3,000 dollars were not forwarded immediately as a ransom his head would be cut off. One of the prisoner's family immediately started for Mitica, but I have not heard the result. The Ionian had with him about 400 dollars for the purchase of cattle.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 4.

Proclamation.

The Provisional Committee of Patras.

(Translation.)

Fellow-Citizens,

OWING to the changes effected this night, and the abolition of the hitherto Civil powers, and in virtue of the authority vested in them by the people and army, the Undersigned have accepted the Provisional Government of this Province and city.

We congratulate you, fellow-citizens, for this change, which has afforded the means of redeeming the nation of which the whole people shall partake, and we deem it our duty first to ensure the safety of the citizens and the public order; and, to this end, we invoke your patriotic concurrence to enable us to reach our aim, so that by means of a national meeting, the people may resolve relative to their future fate.

Fellow-citizens! Without order and tranquillity we are incapable of acquiring any benefit, or of arriving at what we desire. We trust you know this reciprocally; and, consequently, we doubt not you will afford this Committee your prompt concurrence in behalf of general order, for which the Hellenic people, after so many years of suffering, have risen, in order to regain their trampled-on rights.

Hurrah for the nation!

Patras, the night of the 18th October, 1862.

The Committee,

(Signed)

M. RUFOS.

A. LONTOS.

P. PAPADIAMANTOPULOS.

D. BUKAURIS.

G. SOTERIADES.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received November 1.)

Sir,

Admiralty, October 31, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir William Martin dated the 23rd instant, and of one from Captain Rice, of Her Majesty's ship "Algiers," dated the same day, relating to the state of affairs in Greece.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 5.

Vice-Admiral Sir W. Martin to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

My Lord,

"Marlborough," at Corfu, October 23, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival to-day of the "Algiers" from Missolonghi and Patras.

2. Captain E. B. Rice informs me that the revolt in the Province of Acarnania, which commenced at Vonitza on the 16th, extended to Missolonghi on the 18th, and to Patras on the 21st instant.

3. The Governors of the two provinces are deprived of authority, and Provisional Governments are formed: that at Missolonghi includes an ex-Minister; and the members of that at Patras are said to be from the best families in the place. So far as I have heard at present, no damage has been done to life or property.

4. The King was expected to arrive at Katakolo (opposite Zante) on the 18th; and, at the suggestion of Captain Rice, a Greek gun-boat was dispatched thither, to inform His Majesty of the revolution having broken out.

5. The "Pelican" is at present at Patras, having conveyed despatches thither from Athens, and the "Queen" left my flag this morning for the Piræus. The "Scylla" has been detained there to await the arrival of the "Queen."

The "Icarus" is at Santa Maura.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

W. F. MARTIN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 5.

Captain Rice to Vice-Admiral Sir W. Martin.

Sir,

"Algiers," Corfu, October 23, 1862.

IN continuation of my letter of the 21st, I beg leave to inform you that Her Majesty's ship "Pelican" arrived at Patras on the forenoon of the 22nd instant, with despatches for Earl Russell, the Lord High Commissioner, and yourself, from Her Majesty's Minister at Athens.

On consulting the Consul, I found that he agreed with me that the "Pelican" was a sufficient protection to British subjects and property at Patras at present, and I therefore considered it proper to leave her at Patras, with orders to remain there until otherwise directed by you, and proceeded with the despatches to join your flag as previously ordered.

I visited the Provisional Government before leaving Patras, and was assured by them of their intention and ability to preserve the public peace and security. They expressed regret at the escape of the convicts from the castles of Riom, which occurred on the 21st (some 240 in number), but they told me that measures had been taken, and that about thirty had been recaptured already. One of the Commission asked me if I knew where the King was, and on my saying no, said he hoped His Majesty had gone to Trieste in the "Amalia."

The Provisional Government express themselves as secure of the non-intervention of England, as they demand nothing (they say) that England has not repeatedly urged on the King.

Some apprehension exists among the British merchants at Patras lest the mountaineers

of Grivas' soldiery should cross over from Acarnania, and sack or put to ransom Patras, as was done in 1848.

Mr. Wood, Vice-Consul, informed me that property of much value in jewels, &c., had been deposited with him for security that morning (22nd).

When I left yesterday noon (22nd), shops were open nearly as usual. Up to that time the place had the appearance of a general holiday; bands of music parading the streets, pistols and guns fired in the air, crowds enjoying their coffee, &c., at tables in front of the houses.

Nothing could exceed the civility and courtesy of all classes, military and civil, to me and my officers, who inform me that they were repeatedly cheered and saluted with honorary discharges of musketry.

This is a change from what occurred at Missolonghi before the rising took place, when we were told that England was to Greece as Austria to Italy, and the boats' crews were not very courteously addressed by the people—of course, however, in Greek, which they did not understand.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWD. RICE.

No. 6.

*Earl Russell to Earl Cowley.**

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 1, 1862.

ON the 29th instant I had several interviews on the subject of the affairs of Greece, and I am anxious to put your Excellency in possession, as soon as possible, of the purport of these interviews.

M. Tricoupi, the Chargé d'Affaires of Greece, was the first to come to me. He communicated to me a telegram from M. Diamantopoulos, informing M. Tricoupi that a Provisional Government had been formed at Athens, and that he, M. Diamantopoulos, was charged with the Foreign Department.

M. Tricoupi asked me whether I had any advice to give.

I said it was no case for giving advice. Her Majesty's Government had not yet received any despatch upon this subject from Her Majesty's Minister at Athens, and were only informed by telegraph of the leading events. Her Majesty's Government would be very unwilling to interfere in the internal affairs of Greece. There was only one opinion which I felt bound to state at the outset, and that was, that I hoped there would be no incursions on Turkish territory, and no violation of the Treaties of Peace which bound Greece and Turkey. M. Tricoupi, I said, must be aware of the Treaties which bound Great Britain and other Great Powers to maintain the integrity of Turkey.

M. Tricoupi said he was aware of those Treaties, and he did not believe that there existed any intention to violate the Turkish territory, or attack Turkey in any way.

M. Tricoupi was shortly followed by Baron Cetto. He reminded me of the Treaties which guaranteed the Throne of Greece.

I answered, that the IVth Article of the Treaty of London of May 1832 gave a guarantee to Greece under the sovereignty of Prince Otho of Bavaria, but no guarantee to King Otho personally. Indeed, a guarantee to maintain King Otho on the Throne, against his own people, and in spite of any faults he might commit, would be so much at variance with the principles which had ever guided the foreign policy of Great Britain, that I could say, at once, that Great Britain would not use force to restore the Crown of Greece to King Otho.

Baron Cetto then dwelt on the Articles of the Treaty of 1852 which relate to the succession of the Throne, and asked whether Her Majesty's Government would support and maintain the succession to the Throne, supposing King Otho to abdicate, of the Bavarian Princes.

I answered, that neither would Her Majesty's Government support, by force, the succession of the Bavarian Princes; that the Treaty of 1852 evidently contemplated a peaceable demise of the Crown on the part of King Otho.

To further questions of Baron Cetto I replied that Her Majesty's Government would advise the Greeks to follow the order of succession pointed out in the Treaties, if there appeared any chance of such advice being accepted; but Her Majesty's Government would not give useless advice, which was sure to be rejected.

Baron Cetto left me with these replies.

* Similar despatches were addressed to Lord Napier and Lord Bloomfield.

I saw, also, the French Ambassador. To him I stated that I thought Great Britain, France, and Russia should not interfere in the affairs of Greece beyond the necessity of the case; that we were ready to act in concert with France, and to consider, when we had further information, what was to be done. Hitherto we had given no other instructions to the Admiralty than orders to protect British persons and property, and to provide for the personal safety of the King and Queen of Greece.

The Russian Ambassador said he thought any discussion as to the choice of a Prince was premature. The first point he wished to ascertain was whether Her Majesty's Government were disposed to continue to act in concert with Russia and France.

I said Her Majesty's Government were disposed to act in concert with France and Russia upon this subject.

Baron Brunnow spoke, also, of a continuance of the guarantee of Greece as an independent State.

I said Her Majesty's Government were desirous to maintain the independence of Greece; but the question of a guarantee was, I thought, in present circumstances, premature.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 7.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 3.)

(Extract.)

Athens, October 24, 1862.

THE military revolution which commenced at Vonitza on the 18th instant, and extended afterwards to Patras and Missolonghi, broke out finally at Athens on the 22nd of October, and has suddenly brought to an end the reign of King Otho.

As your Lordship will have learned this intelligence by my telegrams and from other sources, it will only interest Her Majesty's Government that I should give a brief account of what has taken place.

It was evidently the intention of the leaders of the movement to fix on different specified days for a rising to occur all over Greece.

It began at Vonitza and Caravassera, on the Gulf of Arta. The famous Chief, Theodore Grivas, led the revolt in Acarnania.

It then reached Missolonghi, the capital of that province, and Patras; having succeeded at all these places, as well as at Corinth and Megara, and other villages adjacent, it broke out on the 22nd instant, about 9 o'clock P.M., at Athens.

A mob at that hour, composed, I believe, of some of the townspeople and peasants brought in from the country, began to fire off guns and to shout in the streets. They were successively joined, in the course of the night, by the whole military force at Athens, consisting of about 1,000 men, Cavalry, Artillery, and Infantry; the Gendarmerie alone not taking part in the rebellion.

From the commencement on Wednesday until this moment, the town has been the theatre of noisy triumph and great disorder and alarms, not without some loss of life.

In the course of the day a Provisional Government was formed, with M. Boulgaris, an Opposition Senator, at its head; and subsequently a Proclamation was issued, declaring the downfall of King Otho and the Queen and of the Bavarian dynasty, to which is added the intention, as your Lordship will perceive by the accompanying document, of referring the future of Greece to a National Assembly.

I was informed, early yesterday morning, that the King and Queen were expected in the Greek frigate "Amalia," from Calamata in the Morea, to which place M. Hadgiskos, Minister of Public Instruction, had gone in a gun-boat to inform their Majesties of what had occurred in Northern Greece, and to urge their return to Athens.

As it turned out, it was fortunate they did not arrive off the Piræus before the revolution had been completely successful.

In the course of the day, I met my colleagues at the house of the French Minister, M. Bourée, where we came to an unanimous decision that it was now not only too late for their Majesties to return to the capital, but that the attempt to do so would be attended with the greatest danger to their personal safety.

As soon, therefore, as I learned that the "Amalia" was in sight, I went down with Captain Lambert, of Her Majesty's ship "Seylla," to the Piræus, and received there a message from His Majesty to go at once on board the frigate then outside the harbour.

I need hardly state that I found both the King and Queen in the greatest distress of mind.

M. Bourée had preceded me by a few minutes, and had already given to their Majesties an account of what had occurred, which was confirmed by me and all the other members of the Diplomatic body, who arrived on board soon after. The King seemed exceedingly surprised at so sudden an act of disaffection on the part of his troops at Athens; nor can this be wondered at, as M. Spiro Milios, the Minister of War, had assured the King, before His Majesty left the capital, that he could thoroughly depend upon them; and the King added, that he had been received with enthusiasm at all the places he had touched at during his short absence.

His Majesty asked me what I thought it probable would be the line of policy Her Majesty's Government, as a guaranteeing Power, would pursue. I replied that a revolution of so rapid and general a character in this country was not foreseen, and that I must wait for instructions before I could form any opinion; but I did not conceal from the King my belief that there was no alternative left for him but his immediate departure, and both M. Bourée and I placed at once respectively the "Zénobie" and the "Scylla" at their Majesties' disposal.

Just at about this moment Captain Palaska, the commander of the "Amalia," brought a letter directed to himself unopened to the King, the contents of which he had divined. He requested the King to open the letter. It was from the newly-established Minister of Marine, to supersede that officer in command of the "Amalia." After this it became a question whether the crew of this vessel could be depended upon, and I suggested that the "Scylla" should accompany the "Amalia" to Salamis Bay for the night, that their Majesties might be better protected by this escort. To this proposal their Majesties readily acceded, and I proceeded myself in the "Scylla" to that anchorage.

This was a fortunate circumstance; for this morning armed boats, with the red flag, were coming out from the Piræus to fraternise with the crew of the frigate, and if they had not been deterred by the guns of the "Scylla" from approaching too near, unpleasant consequences would have resulted from the King and Queen being left at the mercy of a ship's company on the brink of mutiny.

During this morning the hills on the bay were covered with people shouting and firing off guns; and it was time for their Majesties to decide at once upon leaving the frigate. They, after much hesitation, finally determined to go off in the "Scylla."

As soon as they were on board, the "Amalia" got up her steam, saluted first the King, and then the insurgent flag, and when I had taken leave of their Majesties, the "Amalia" was on her way to the Piræus, every officer having gone over to the rebels, except her captain, who stood faithful to the King, and with whom he left the ship.

Although the "Scylla" is too small a vessel for the comfort of their Majesties, they preferred leaving Greece in a British man-of-war as they arrived here, and they were to sail to-night, accompanied by the French gun-boat "La Biche," with part of their suite; so that both flags, English and French, are associated on the occasion.

In the meantime there is no English ship of war in the Piræus, and on account of the present unsettled, not to say dangerous, state of Athens, I have left my daughter on board the French Admiral's ship.

Yesterday M. Bourée and myself both requested to have some Marines for a guard within our respective Legations against brigandage.

The suddenness of the "Scylla's" departure prevented the possibility of sending these Marines on board again, six men only, who will remain with me until the arrival of the next British ship of war, and are quite requisite for the safety of property confided by other persons to my care, as well as of my own.

I wish to take this opportunity of stating that since Captain Lambert has been senior officer on this station, he has been of great service to Her Majesty's Mission in many ways, and no better officer could have been selected, on account of his kindness and tact, for the honour of conveying their Majesties on this lamentable occasion away from their dominions.

The newly-installed Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Diamantopoulos, has evinced already, as your Lordship will observe by the inclosed note, the desire to be placed in relations with me as Her Majesty's Minister in Greece.

I shall, of course, decline all official relations with him and his colleagues, and await only your Lordship's instructions as to whether I ought to leave Athens.

P.S.—October 25th.—Since I began this despatch I have received from King Otho a proclamation of which I inclose a translation in French.

Inclosure 1 in No. 7.

Proclamation of the Provisional Government.

(Traduction.)

ROYAUME DE GRECE.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire de la Grèce aux Grecs.

Concitoyens !

UN système de politique qui humiliait la dignité nationale en amenant la corruption des mœurs, un système Gouvernemental qui a anéanti le respect envers les lois de l'Etat et la conscience des citoyens, ne pouvait qu'avoir contre lui l'opinion de la nation Grecque qu'il poussait à l'insurrection. Aussi, il n'y a pas longtemps que plusieurs provinces avaient entrepris cette grande tâche, et maintenant toutes les provinces se sont presque revoltées et ont renversé les autorités constituées. Soutenues par la généreuse armée elles établirent des administrations locales.

Ce même besoin et ce même désir ont soulevé cette nuit le peuple de la capitale qui émulant, quant au patriotisme, les peuples des provinces, a recherché la dissolution de l'ordre constitué ; et l'armée, fidèle gardienne des lois qui lui ont été confié par la nation, et digne du nom d'armée Grecque, dont elle est fière, a soutenu les efforts du peuple et par un accord de co-opération on est parvenu à renverser l'ordre actuel des choses, en proclamant la chute de celui qui occupait le Trône de la Grèce, ainsi que l'abrogation des droits de régence accordés à son épouse. Un Gouvernement Provisoire est établi, composé de MM. D. G. Boulgaris, Président, de C. Canaris, et de M. Roufos.

Le Président du nouveau Gouvernement a immédiatement établi un Ministère composé de MM. Tatzí Manghina, Ministre des Finances ; Thrasybule A. Zaimis, Ministre de l'Intérieur ; Alexandre Coumoundouros, Ministre de la Justice ; Demetrius Mavromichalis, Ministre de la Guerre ; Ep. Déligeorge, Ministre de l'Instruction ; B. Nicolopoulos, Ministre des Cultes ; A. Diamantopoulos, Ministre de l'Extérieur ; Dem. Callifronas, Ministre de la Marine.

La mission que le Gouvernement Provisoire a reçu du peuple et de l'armée est de maintenir la Constitution Monarchique, de témoigner toujours le respect inaltérable et la reconnaissance de la Grèce envers les trois Grandes Puissances Bienfaitrices, de maintenir intactes les relations amicales de la nation avec tous les autres Etats, de convoquer le plutôt possible l'Assemblée Nationale, et de maintenir pendant tout ce temps l'ordre et la tranquillité par l'application des lois de l'Etat. Nous remplirons, Messieurs, ce devoir avec tout empressement et fidélité, prêts à déposer l'autorité entre les mains de l'Assemblée qui doit être convoquée.

Mais pour que cette grande tâche sacrée soit accomplie il est nécessaire que le patriotisme de tous se maintienne dans toute sa vigueur ; aussi c'est ce patriotisme que nous invoquons, Messieurs, et nous attendrons de votre part non seulement le maintien de l'ordre et de la tranquillité, mais aussi cette abnégation qui a toujours distingué la nation Grecque dans les circonstances critiques du passé. Ainsi nous espérons que la puissante main du Très-Haut, qui n'a jamais abandonné la patrie, soutiendra nos faibles mais sincères efforts et bénira cette nouvelle œuvre en consolidant le nouvel ordre des choses à la gloire du nom Grec.

Athènes, le $\frac{11}{23}$ Octobre, 1862.

Le Président du Gouvernement Provisoire de la Grèce,

(Signé)

D. G. BOULGARIS.

Les Ministres d'Etat,

(Signé)

T. MANGHINA.

TH. A. ZAIMIS.

AL. COUMOUNDOUROS.

D. MAVROMICHALIS.

E. DELIGEORGE.

D. CALLIFRONA.

B. NICOLOPOULOS.

A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

Le Secrétaire-Général du Gouvernement Provisoire,

N. A. CHATZOPOULOS.

(Translation.)

KINGDOM OF GREECE.

The Provisional Government of Greece to the Greeks.

Fellow-citizens !

A POLITICAL system, which was humbling to the national dignity by introducing corruption of morals,—a system of government which has extinguished respect for the laws of the State and the conscience of its citizens,—could not but be in opposition to the opinion of the Greek nation, which it was forcing to insurrection. Moreover, it was but recently that several provinces undertook this great task, and now all the provinces are almost in a state of revolt, and have put down the constituted authorities. Supported by the generous army they established local administrations.

The same need and the same desire have this night called up the people of the capital, who, emulating in respect of patriotism the inhabitants of the provinces, have sought for the dissolution of the constituted order ; and the army, faithful guardian of the laws which have been placed by the nation in her keeping, and worthy of the name of Greek army, which is her boast, has supported the efforts of the people, and by an agreement to co-operate, they have succeeded in overturning the existing order of things, proclaiming at the same time the deposition of the occupant of the Throne of Greece, as well as the abrogation of the rights of regency accorded to his consort. A Provisional Government is established, composed of Messrs. D. G. Boulgaris (President), C. Canaris, and M. Roufos.

The President of the new Government immediately appointed a Ministry composed of Messrs. Tatzi Manghina, Minister of Finance ; Thrasybulus A. Zaimis, Minister of the Interior ; Alexander Coumoundouros, Minister of Justice ; Demetrius Mavromichalis, Minister of War ; Ep. Déligeorge, Minister of Instruction ; B. Nicolopoulos, Minister of Public Worship ; A. Diamantopoulos, Minister of Foreign Affairs ; Demetrius Callifronas, Minister of Marine.

The mission which the Provisional Government has received from the people and from the army is that of maintaining the Monarchical Constitution, of constantly proving the unchangeable respect and the gratitude of Greece towards the three great Powers her benefactors, of maintaining intact the friendly relations of the nation with all other States, of convoking as early as possible the National Assembly, and of maintaining throughout their period of office order and tranquillity by the execution of the laws of the State. We shall fulfil this duty, Gentlemen, with all readiness and fidelity, prepared to lay down our authority in the hands of the Assembly which is about to be convoked.

But in order that this grand and sacred task may be accomplished, it is necessary that the patriotism of all be maintained in its full vigour. To this patriotism also do we appeal, Gentlemen, and we shall look to you not alone for the maintenance of order and tranquillity, but likewise for that spirit of abnegation which has ever distinguished the Greek nation in the critical circumstances of the past. So it is our hope that the mighty hand of the Highest, which has never abandoned those who love their country, will sustain our feeble but sincere efforts, and will bless this new work by consolidating the new order of affairs for the glory of the Greek name.

Athens, October $\frac{11}{23}$, 1852.

The President of the Provisional Government of Greece,

(Signed)

D. G. BOULGARIS.

The Ministers of State,

(Signed)

T. MANGHINAS.

TH. A. ZAIMIS.

AL. COUMOUNDOUROS.

D. MAVROMICHALIS.

E. DELIGEORGE.

D. CALLIFRONAS.

B. NICOLOPOULOS.

A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

The Secretary-General of the Provisional Government,

N. A. CHATZOPOULOS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 7.

M. Diamantopoulos to Mr. Scarlett.

M. le Ministre,

Athènes, le $\frac{11}{23}$ Octobre, 1862.

VOUS connaissez déjà le mouvement national qui a éclaté partout en Grèce, et qui s'est accompli la nuit passée à Athènes.

A la suite de ce mouvement, un Gouvernement Provisoire s'est constitué, sous la Présidence de M. D. Boulgaris, et dans la composition du Cabinet qui vient d'être formé j'ai eu l'honneur d'être chargé du portefeuille des Relations Extérieures.

En vous faisant part de ce qui précède, je me croirais heureux d'entretenir des rapports avec vous, et de contribuer ainsi à réparer de plus en plus les liens d'amitié, de sympathie, et d'attachement heureusement existant entre la Grèce et la Grande Bretagne.

Veuillez, &c.

(Signé) A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre,

Athens, October $\frac{11}{23}$, 1862.

YOU are already aware that a national movement has broken out throughout Greece, and has occurred during the past night at Athens.

As a result of that movement, a Provisional Government has constituted itself under the Presidency of M. D. Boulgaris; and at the composition of the Cabinet which has just been formed I had the honour to be entrusted with the Portfolio of Foreign Affairs.

In communicating the above to you, I would esteem myself fortunate to enter into connection with you, and in thus contributing to cement more and more the ties of amity, of sympathy, and of attachment happily existing between Greece and Great Britain.

Accept, &c.

(Signed) A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 7.

Proclamation by King Otho.

(Traduction littérale.)

Hellènes,

CONVAINCU qu'après les événements douloureux survenus récemment en différents points du royaume, et particulièrement dans la capitale, mon séjour actuel en Grèce pourrait jeter les habitants dans des complications sanglantes et difficiles à résoudre, j'ai résolu de quitter quant à présent le pays que j'ai aimé, et que j'aime cordialement, et au bonheur duquel pendant près de trente ans j'ai péniblement et instamment travaillé.

Loin de toute ostentation je ne visais qu'aux intérêts bien entendus de la Grèce, encourageant de toutes mes forces votre développement matériel et moral, et veillant surtout à ce que justice soit rendue à tous. Toutes les fois d'ailleurs qu'il s'agissait de délits politiques contre moi j'ai montré une clémence et une générosité sans bornes.

Je fais des vœux pour que le Dieu de Miséricorde protège toujours vos destinées.

En rade de Salamine.

(Signé) OTHON.

(Translation.)

Hellènes,

CONVINCED that, after the painful events which have recently occurred at different points of the kingdom, and particularly in the capital, my dwelling at present in Greece might bring upon the inhabitants complications involving bloodshed, and difficult of resolution, I have resolved for the present to quit a land which I have loved, and which I cordially love, and for whose welfare I have during nigh thirty years laboured with difficulty and diligence.

Far from all ostentation, I regarded alone the well-understood interests of Greece, encouraging with all my power your material and moral development, and watchful especially that justice might be rendered to all. In addition, on every occasion when political misdemeanours towards me were treated of, I have shown unlimited clemency and generosity.

I offer my vows that the God of mercy may ever protect your destinies.

From the roads of Salamine.

(Signed) OTHO.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 3.)

(Extract.)

Athens, October 25, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a Report, forwarded to me this morning by Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Athens, on the state of the town, by which it appears that a good many shops were pillaged last night, and among them one belonging to an English watchmaker, named Hall.

I also regret to have to state to your Lordship that the Royalist commandant of the Piræus, Captain Karagiannopoulos, was shot by the insurgents while attempting to escape on board a French man-of-war.

Many of my colleagues have called on me frequently for advice, and seem much alarmed. I have offered them as much protection as this house can afford, which I hope will be respected.

Inclosure in No. 8.

Vice-Consul Merlin to Mr. Scarlett.

Sir,

Athens, October 25, 1862.

SEVERAL robberies and acts of violence were committed by drunken soldiers and thieves last night.

The shop of a British subject, Nicola Hall, watchmaker, was broken into and pillaged of its contents, to the amount, as Mr. N. Hall tells me, of from 10,000 to 12,000 drachmas (350*l.* or 450*l.*) worth of watches, &c. This shop is situated in Hermes Street.

A baccali's shop (or general dealer in groceries) was attacked by some of the criminals who were let out of prison, aided by some drunken soldiers. Here a collision took place between them and the guard which had been organized out of the students of the University.

The robbers fired on the guard, killing two young men, but they were attacked, and all the eight miscreants were taken prisoners. They are to be shot to-day by order of the Provisional Government as a warning to others.

I have been round to nearly all the leading men amongst the merchants and bankers, and I am happy to say that every one is determined that order shall be re-established, and crime severely punished.

The soldiers are to be collected at their various quarters, and those that are intoxicated and disorderly will be disarmed.

I have seen M. Stavros, the Director of the National Bank, and I hear that steps are to be taken for the regular payment of the troops, &c.

The houses of several Germans attached to the Court were, I believe, pillaged, and amongst them that of the Queen's Chaplain. I was able to save the house and furniture of M. Wenning (one of the King's Private Secretaries) by giving timely information to the authorities.

I have used my utmost endeavours with my friends and acquaintances amongst the members of the Provisional Government to cause a stop to be put to the firing, particularly to that with ball-cartridges.

Several Ionians have applied to me to protect their property, and I have told them they are at liberty to bring anything they like to the Vice-Consulate, provided it is done quietly, and not so as to attract the attention of any evil-minded persons. A good many Greeks have also sent me their plate and jewellery.

I hope that matters will now quiet down, though I hardly think it will be prudent to open the shops before Monday.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. L. W. MERLIN.

No. 9.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 3.)

(Extract.)

Athens, October 25, 1862.

I INCLOSE, for your Lordship's information, my reply to M. Diamantopoulos, who is directing the Foreign Department of the new Government, in consequence of his communication to me inclosed in my previous despatch.

I have taken the same opportunity of demanding reparation for the pillage of Mr. Hall, the watchmaker's house at Athens.

This morning I had an interview with M. Spiliotaki, one of the Clerks of the Foreign Office, sent to offer compensation for this act of robbery. I took this occasion to inform the Provisional Government through this gentleman that Her Majesty's Government would hold the new authorities responsible for the safety, not only of this Mission, but of all British persons and property at Athens, and I recommended that such persons or troops on whom the Government placed reliance should be ordered to patrol the neighbourhood of the residence of myself and of my colleagues.

Inclosure in No. 9.

Mr. Scarlett to M. Diamantopoulos.

(Extract.)

Athens, October 5, 1862.

IN reply to your communication dated the 23rd instant, announcing the events which have recently occurred at Athens, I beg to state that I am only able to enter into unofficial relations with the Provisional Government which has assumed the direction of affairs in this city. I am accredited only to King Otho.

I take this occasion of stating that the house of an English subject, Mr. Hall, was pillaged last night of property of the value of 10,000 or 12,000 drachmas, for which Her Majesty's Government will expect immediate compensation.

I have also to express my hope that measures will be taken at once not only to ensure the safety from pillage of my Legation, but of all the homes and property belonging at Athens to British subjects.

No. 10.

Earl Cowley to Earl Russell.—(Received November 5.)

My Lord,

Paris, November 4, 1862.

THE Greek Minister at this Court has announced officially to M. Drouyn de Lhuys the completion of the revolution; the intentions of the Provisional Government to convoke a National Assembly for the purpose of remodifying the Constitution, and of electing another Sovereign; and its determination to act with calmness and moderation. The Provisional Government hopes, therefore, that the new order of things may be recognized by the Protecting Powers, and the benefit of their advice be assured to the Greek nation.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys will answer this note in general terms, neither approving nor disapproving what has been done, and stating his intention to concert with the Governments of Great Britain and Russia. He will at the same time express satisfaction at the assurance given of the intentions of the Provisional Government to maintain order, in order, as he said, to encourage them to persist in this course.

I have, &c.

(Signed) COWLEY.

No. 11.

Earl Cowley to Earl Russell.—(Received November 5.)

(Extract.)

Paris, November 4, 1862.

M. DROUYN DE LHUYS having inquired of me whether I had received any further intelligence respecting the events which are passing in Greece, I thought it as well to read to his Excellency your Lordship's despatch of the 1st instant, giving an account of the conversation which your Lordship had held with M. Tricoupi, Baron de Cetto, Count Flahault, and Baron Brunnow, on matters relating to that country.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys expressed his full concurrence in the language which your Lordship had held to those individuals. He added that, under present circumstances, the most prudent course to take was to wait.

No. 12.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 6, 1862.

WITH reference to your letter of the 31st ultimo, and to the reports on the affairs of Greece inclosed therein, I am directed by Earl Russell to request that you will state to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that his Lordship is of opinion that some men-of-war should be kept on the coast of Greece to protect British persons and property.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 13.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received November 6.)

Sir,

Admiralty, November 5, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter from Captain Lambert, of Her Majesty's ship "Scylla," dated the 27th October, reporting on proceedings in Greece, and the reception of the King and Queen of Greece on board the "Scylla," for conveyance to Corfu and Venice.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure in No. 13.

Captain Lambert to Vice-Admiral Sir W. Martin.

(Extract.)

"Scylla," Corfu, October 27, 1862.

ON the 22nd the revolt took place in Athens shortly after 9 P.M., the first warning given by some muskets fired in the environs of the town. Immediately afterwards the troops left their different posts and stations, and joined with the crowds, and commenced firing their muskets off in all directions, not aiming at anything, but firing them off in the air. A small body of gendarmes remained faithful about the palace until 4 A.M., when the whole went over to the people. The Piræus followed in the steps of the capital; a Provisional Government was formed that night. At 2 P.M. on the 23rd, Mr. Scarlett came down to the Piræus, and at the same time the Greek frigate "Amalia" arrived off the port, having their Majesties on board, who had heard of the revolt at Vonitza and Caravassera when at Kalamata. The French Admiral went outside the harbour to communicate with the frigate, and bore the intelligence of the revolt at Athens, and, in fact, the downfall of their dynasty. I accompanied Mr. Scarlett on board the "Amalia" outside, and shortly afterwards all the different Foreign Ministers arrived on board. After a long consultation it was decided that their Majesties should proceed into Salamis Bay in the Greek frigate, and that the "Scylla" should accompany him there, to watch over their safety from anything that might occur on board their ship; the French brig "Biche" also came out: the frigate waited outside until I got under weigh, and we both proceeded into the bay and anchored for the night; Mr. Scarlett continued on board the "Scylla." Next morning, the 24th, at 8 A.M., the King sent for me, and told me that the Queen and himself intended to go on board the "Scylla" with their suite and goods, until arrangements could be made as to whether the "Zénobie," flag-ship of Rear-Admiral Touchard, or the "Scylla," should convey their Majesties away from the country. I had thought that this was decided, but just before leaving their Majesties again sent for me, and asked me whether I thought that it was at all probable that the crew of the frigate would prove disloyal, if they proceeded in her to Trieste. I could only answer their Majesties by saying, that from what I had seen the previous night, when the whole of the military revolted, I would place no reliance on them, and added, that if their Majesties now decided upon going in the "Amalia," I would take upon myself the responsibility of escorting them to their destination. The French Admiral being in the Piræus, I had no means of concerting with him immediately, and time was of importance. There was a large crowd of people, soldiers and others, on the point nearest to Salamis Bay, leading from the Piræus, firing their muskets, shouting and waving red flags. After some hesitation

their Majesties decided again upon going on board the "Scylla," and 12-15 they left the "Amalia" and came on board the "Scylla," where I received them with ship dressed, yards manned, and a royal salute. Some officers on board the "Amalia" ordered their men to man yards, which they refused to do, but they fired a royal salute. As soon as I hoisted the royal standard, the frigate hauled her's down, cut out the royal arms, as also out of the national ensign, hoisted them in this manner, and fired a royal salute.

Shortly afterwards, on the arrival on board of some of the members of the Provisional Government, the "Amalia" weighed, dressed ship, manned yards, fired a royal salute, and proceeded into the Piræus. The French Admiral came on board the "Scylla" to offer to carry their Majesties where they would, which was accepted, and I was preparing to turn everything over to the "Zénobie," when I was sent for and told that their Majesties had made up their mind to remain in the "Scylla," and wished to be conveyed to Trieste. I pointed out to the Bavarian Minister (who with Mr. Scarlett remained with their Majesties until the last) that the "Scylla" had no accommodation; but they would not change, and the French Admiral being anxious that the two flags should be associated in some way with these extraordinary events, I suggested that the "Biche" might be useful in taking a part of the baggage, and that I would tow her during fine weather. She accordingly took a boat-load of baggage, and all the rest remains on board the "Scylla."

At 9-45 I took the "Biche" in tow and started (25th). At 9-50 A.M. we sighted Her Majesty's ship "Queen," about five miles from Cape Malca, and Captain Hillyar came, offering to take their Majesties on board, but they declined; and having informed Captain Hillyar of what had occurred at Athens, he proceeded to the Piræus with all dispatch.

At Mr. Scarlett's request on the 23rd I sent a party of Marines (one serjeant and five privates) as a guard to the Legation: these men I have left behind, having requested the French Admiral (who had also sent a guard to the French Legation) to receive them on board the "Zénobie," if required, until the arrival of an English man-of-war, which I felt sure was close at hand. I trust that the suddenness of these events, and the charge I have on board, will plead an excuse for the very imperfect details that I have given of this disastrous event.

The French brig "Biche" I have cast off this evening (26th), in order to arrive at Corfu as early as possible, and if arrangements could be made to send coal (16 tons) and water to her on her arrival it would facilitate her departure, as I think their Majesties would wish to continue their voyage as soon as possible after their telegraphic messages are sent, even without the "Biche," that she may follow as quick as she can. I do not think their Majesties desire to leave the "Scylla" to re-embark in a larger ship, if offered to them.

No. 14.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received November 6.)

(Extract.)

Admiralty, November 5, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Russell, the accompanying duplicate of a letter dated the 27th ultimo, from Vice-Admiral Sir William Martin, reporting on the movements of the ships under his orders.

Inclosure in No. 14.

Vice-Admiral Sir W. Martin to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

"Marlborough," at Corfu, October 27, 1862.

IN continuation of my general letter of the 25th instant, I have the honour to report that I informed your Lordship by telegram of the arrival this morning of the "Scylla," with their Majesties the King and Queen of Greece on board.

2. Their Majesties left again early this morning for Venice, where they will disembark, and the "Scylla" will return to Corfu.

3. I leave to-day in my flag-ship for the Piræus of Athens, as reported by telegram. The "Queen" is at present at the Piræus, the "Shannon" at Patras, and the "Icarus" at Santa Maura, having just visited Missolonghi.

No. 15.

Earl Russell to Mr. Searlett.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 6, 1862.

YOUR telegram of the 25th of October, received on the 27th through Corfu, apprized Her Majesty's Government of an insurrection having broken out at Athens in the night of the 22nd; of the arrival of the King and Queen of Greece on the following day; and of the decision taken by their Majesties on the general representation of the Diplomatic Body to leave the country.

Your telegram of the 28th announced that the insurrection had spread throughout Greece and the islands, and that M. Boulgaris, the President of the Provisional Government, desired to have the opinion of Her Majesty's Government as to the election of a successor to the throne, and in regard to the mode of convoking the National Assembly.

You said further, that it was reported that it was in contemplation to form, for the election of the National Assembly, Committees, the members of which might be Greeks having their abode in Greece or elsewhere; that the Greeks were most anxious to avoid the occupation of Greece by foreign troops, a measure which you yourself considered to be unnecessary; and further, that the proclamation of the Provisional Government did not, as you had been led to suppose, declare the exclusion of the Bavarian line from the throne of Greece.

I informed you in reply that the Prince to be chosen as Sovereign of Greece must not belong to one of the families reigning in the States parties to the Treaty of July 6, 1827, and to the Protocols of April 4, 1826, and July 6, 1827; and that accordingly His Imperial Highness the Duke of Leuchtenberg and His Royal Highness Prince Alfred, to whom you had alluded as possible candidates, would be excluded.

I said that I was glad to hear that the proclamation of the Provisional Government did not exclude the Bavarian line; that I had told the Bavarian Minister that the Allied Powers would not interfere by force to restore King Otho; and that Her Majesty's Government would even advise that a Bavarian Prince should be called to the throne of Greece if there was any chance of such advice being taken.

I said that Her Majesty's Government desired to see Greece free and prosperous; that there was no necessity for a foreign occupation; but that the National Assembly ought to be chosen in Greece only; and that Her Majesty's Government would adhere to the Treaty between England, France, and Austria, of the 15th of April, 1856.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 16.

Earl Russell to Mr. Searlett.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 6, 1862.

I RECEIVED on the 1st instant your telegram of the 30th of October, requesting to be informed what steps you should take with reference to affixing the seal of the British Legation to the presses containing the papers of the King of Greece, which His Majesty had requested might be restored to him, but which the Provisional Government refused to give up, and even hesitated to allow the Ministers of the three Powers to secure by their official seals.

I acquainted you, in reply, that you should press the Provisional Government to allow you to place your seal on the papers; but that the Ministers of France and Russia must take their own course in the matter.

I have informed the Bavarian Minister in this country, in answer to an application that I have received from him on the subject, of the nature of the instructions which I have thus given to you.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 17.

Earl Russell to Mr. Scarlett.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 6, 1862.

M. TRICOUPI called at the Foreign Office two days ago, and stated that the Provisional Government of Greece were desirous of ascertaining whether they would be recognized by Her Majesty's Government, and had desired him to point out the importance of their being so, by reason of the assistance which it would afford them in their endeavours to maintain order.

M. Tricoupi has been informed in reply, by my direction, that Her Majesty's Government must consult the Governments of France and Russia before they can recognize any new Government of Greece: but that, at all events, no Assembly comprising members pretending to represent Turkish Provinces could possibly be recognized by the Government of Her Majesty.

Aali Pasha, M. Tricoupi has been informed, has already appealed to Her Majesty's Government on that point.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 18.

Earl Russell to Mr. Scarlett.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 6, 1862.

I TAKE the earliest opportunity to repeat to you in a more precise form the instructions which I have already conveyed to you by telegraph, to be careful that Her Majesty's ships of war in the waters of Greece are employed only for the protection of British persons and property.

The only exception which I sanctioned,—and I did so before the extent to which the revolution would proceed was known,—was that if the King and Queen should wish to leave Greece, you should ask Vice-Admiral Martin to place a ship of war at their disposal for that purpose.

The Board of Admiralty will have sent corresponding instructions to Vice-Admiral Martin.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 19.

Earl Russell to Mr. Scarlett.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 6, 1862.

I HAVE to instruct you not to offer any advice to the Provisional Government of Greece in regard to the selection of a sovereign from the Bavarian family.

His Royal Highness Prince Alfred and His Serene Highness the Duc de Leuchtenberg being, as I have stated to you in my previous despatch of this day, excluded from the throne of Greece, Her Majesty's Government will communicate with the Governments of France and Russia as to other candidates who would be acceptable to Greece.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 20.

Earl Russell to Mr. Scarlett.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 6, 1862.

I HAVE received and laid before the Queen your despatches of the 24th and 25th ultimo, announcing the Revolution which has broken out in Greece, and which has led to the expulsion of King Otho.

Her Majesty's Government have learnt these events without surprise. They have

long lamented the blind policy pursued by King Otho, and they have long foreseen that it tended, sooner or later, to produce the catastrophe which has now happened.

But it is not for want of good advice, or of ample and often-repeated warnings on the part of Great Britain, that this unfortunate Sovereign has lost his throne.

During a long course of years the British Government, through its successive Representatives at Athens, Sir Edmund Lyons, Mr. Wyse, and Mr. Elliot, has endeavoured to impress upon King Otho the mistaken nature of the system of government which he was pursuing, and the necessity of adopting a system better calculated to conciliate the affection and confidence of his subjects, and to promote the welfare and prosperity of Greece.

The endeavours of the British Government proved unsuccessful, and their anticipations have been realized.

The kingdom of Greece having by the transactions of 1832 been acknowledged as an independent State, the people of Greece are entitled to exercise the rights of national independence; and one of the rights which belong to an independent nation, and of the exercise of which the history of Europe affords many examples, is that of changing its governing dynasty upon good and sufficient cause.

Her Majesty's Government cannot deny that the Greeks have had good and sufficient cause for the steps they have taken, and Her Majesty's Government therefore can see no reason why any foreign Powers should interfere for the purpose of calling upon the Greeks to revoke the decision to which they have come.

Her Majesty's Government are glad to observe that this revolution has been accomplished without violence or disorder; and, indeed, the unanimity which has been displayed on this occasion by the Greek nation is of itself a proof that the discontent which led to the change was universal, and discontent does not become universal in a nation unless it is well-founded.

The people of Greece will now have a most important duty to perform. They will have to choose a Sovereign to succeed to the vacant throne. The Provisional Government are about to adopt the measure best calculated for this purpose; they are going to summon a National Assembly.

The last National Assembly, which was called together in 1843 to frame a Constitution, performed its duties with order, moderation, and good sense. It is to be hoped that the National Assembly about to be convoked will conduct its deliberations in a manner equally becoming. Her Majesty's Government have no desire to interfere in that matter, nor to influence the decision which the Greeks may come to as to the choice of their new Sovereign, except to remind them that by the agreements and engagements concluded in 1832 between England, France, and Russia, no person connected with the Royal or Imperial Families of either of the three Powers can be placed upon the throne of Greece.

Her Majesty's Government have seen with great pleasure in the proclamation of the Provisional Government of Greece a declaration that "the mission which the Provisional Government has received from the people and the army is to maintain the monarchical constitution; to show the unaltered respect and gratitude ever entertained by Greece towards the three protecting Powers; to maintain intact the friendly relations of the nation with all other States; to convoke as soon as possible the National Assembly; and to maintain during the interval order and tranquillity by the application of the laws of the State."

If the Provisional Government and the permanent Government which may succeed it, should scrupulously act upon these principles, the kingdom of Greece will secure to itself the goodwill and respect of all nations, and if the deliberations of the National Assembly shall lead to a wise and judicious choice of a future Sovereign, the internal welfare and prosperity of the Greek State will attain a development which Greece has hitherto been unable to reach.

Great Britain took an active part in the original establishment of the kingdom of Greece. The sympathies of the British nation for the Greek race remain unimpaired, and Her Majesty's Government will watch with the deepest interest that progressive improvement which they hope to see effected in the well-being and prosperity of the Greek kingdom.

You will communicate this despatch to M. Diamantopoulos.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 21.

Earl Russell to Mr. Scarlett.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 7, 1862.

IT having been stated that Deputies from provinces legally belonging to Turkey would be admitted into the National Assembly about to be convened at Athens to consider of the present situation of the affairs of Greece, I have to inform you that no such Assembly containing Deputies from Turkish provinces would be recognized by Her Majesty as lawfully representing the kingdom of Greece.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 22.

Earl Cowley to Earl Russell.—(Received November 8.)

My Lord,

Paris, November 7, 1862.

M. DROUYN DE LHUYS writes to the French Minister at Athens by the mail of to-day to put him in possession of the communications which have passed between the Governments of the three Protecting Powers with reference to the present crisis in Greece, and to state that he partakes the opinion of the British and Russian Governments, with reference to the engagements contracted by the three Powers in 1826 and 1832, which exclude from the Throne of Greece any Prince belonging to the family of either of the three Powers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) COWLEY.

No. 23.

Earl Cowley to Earl Russell.—(Received November 8.)

My Lord,

Paris, November 7, 1862.

THE Turkish Ambassador has, by order of his Government, informed M. Drouyn de Lhuys that there is an intention on the part of the Greek provinces of Turkey to send Deputies to the National Assembly about to be convoked in Greece, and that the Porte is desirous that the French Government should remonstrate with the Government of Greece against receiving them.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys replied that he would not act alone in this matter, but that he would put himself into immediate communication with Her Majesty's Government, which his Excellency informs me he has done. He expressed himself also in very strong terms as to the revolutionary nature of the contemplated measure, should it be taken.

I have, &c.
(Signed) COWLEY.

No. 24.

*Earl Russell to Earl Cowley.**

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 8, 1862.

HER Majesty's Government being desirous to act in all matters relating to Greece in full communication with France and Russia, I desire you will read and give to M. Drouyn de Lhuys a copy of the inclosed despatch to Mr. Scarlett.†

It will be seen from that despatch that, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, no attempt ought to be made by any foreign Power to compel the Greeks to revoke the decision which they have taken as to the deposition of King Otho, nor to dictate to them as to the choice which they are about to make of a successor to the Throne, provided only that such choice shall not infringe the agreements and engagements entered into by the three Powers in 1826, 1827, and 1832, excluding from the Throne of Greece any person

* A similar despatch was addressed to Lord Napier.

† No. 20.

belonging to or connected with the reigning family of any of the three Powers ; and Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that the Government of France will take the same view of these matters.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 25.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 10.)

(Extract.)

Athens, October 27, 1862.

IN the course of yesterday, M. Diamantopoulos, the new Minister for Foreign Affairs, called upon me at the Legation.

He began the conversation by stating that he had come to place himself, unofficially, in relation with Her Majesty's Minister, knowing that I could not recognize him at the present moment officially.

I said, in reply, that I considered myself still accredited by Her Majesty's Government, in the character I had held before the revolution, to King Otho, and that I could receive him in my house only as a private individual ; but that for the current affairs of the Legation, and the protection of British interests, I should be glad to have recourse to the Provisional Government until I received fresh instructions from your Lordship.

M. Diamantopoulos then stated his hope and belief that order would soon be restored at Athens and throughout Greece, and added the assurance that, whatever the King and the late Government might have intended against Turkey, there was not the slightest desire on the part of the mass of the Greek nation to promote any chimerical ideas of aggrandisement ; and that Her Majesty's Government might fully rely on a complete abnegation of that policy by the present Government of Greece.

No. 26.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 10.)

(Extract.)

Athens, October 28, 1862.

M. BOULGARIS, the President of the Provisional Government, called on me yesterday, accompanied by his interpreter, as he knows only a little French and Italian, and talks the Greek language.

He began the conversation by stating that he had come to pay me an unofficial visit, knowing that he could not be received by me in any other character : first, to make my acquaintance ; and then to give me assurances that the Government now installed had already taken proper measures to restore the city of Athens, and the country generally, to a state of tranquillity, and that he had every hope of being successful in his endeavours.

M. Boulgaris declared, as M. Diamantopoulos, the new Minister for Foreign Affairs, had already done, that nothing was farther from the intention of the present Government than the encouragement of any policy hostile to Turkey, and that to govern the country better and to maintain order was the only object now in view.

I then referred to the Succession question, and begged to know what were the views of M. Boulgaris and his colleagues on that subject.

He replied that it was their intention to appeal, as soon as possible, to a National Assembly, to determine upon a successor to the vacant Throne of King Otho ; and that as it would be necessary, and not difficult, to guide the country in the choice it would have to make, he was anxious to have the assistance of the three Powers, in order to indicate the new Sovereign, adding the hope that I would obtain my instructions on this point, with no delay, from your Lordship.

No. 27.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 10.)

My Lord,

Athens, October 29, 1862.

IN my despatch of the 25th instant I inclosed, for your Lordship's information, a copy of my reply to the communication made to me by M. Diamantopoulos of his appointment as new Minister for Foreign Affairs by the Provisional Government. After

acknowledging his communication, in that reply I also gave him to understand that Her Majesty's Government would hold the Provisional Government responsible for the losses sustained by Mr. Hall, an Ionian watchmaker, whose premises, on the 23rd instant, were broken open and robbed to the amount, it was said, of 12,000 drachmas.

In the interview I had with M. Diamantopoulos he alluded to my reply above mentioned, and stated that he had already ordered this affair should be inquired into, and that I might depend upon justice being done to Mr. Hall by a proper compensation, reminding me at the same time that he had already anticipated this intention by sending to me M. Spiliotaki, who had previously called at Her Majesty's Legation to say that Mr. Hall would be indemnified.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, however, observed that the Provisional Government did not wish to open the door to other claimants, both foreign and native, for losses of this kind in general. To this I replied that I had heard many German shops had been robbed as well, and that, in the name of my colleagues generally, I thought it my duty to say that in principle the Government was bound to do the same justice to all foreign claimants, although it was not our business to interfere with the conduct of the Government where Greek subjects only were concerned.

Since that interview I have received an official note, a copy of which I have the honour to inclose, from M. Diamantopoulos, informing me that within eight days Mr. Hall will be paid the sum of 8,000 drachmas in compensation of his claims, with which amount of indemnity I understand he will be quite satisfied.

I have, &c.
(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

P.S.—I have the honour to inclose a copy of Mr. Hall's letter to me, since received, thanking me for my intervention in his behalf.

P. C. S.

Inclosure 1 in No. 27.

M. Diamantopoulos to Mr. Scarlett.

M. le Ministre,

Athènes, le 1⁵/₇ Octobre, 1862.

J'AI eu l'honneur de recevoir votre office du 25 du courant.

Dès qu'il eut appris que M. Hall, sujet Anglais, a perdu, dans la journée du 1²/₄ Octobre, quelques objets de prix, le Gouvernement Provisoire s'était empressé de prendre les dispositions nécessaires pour que M. Hall ne subît aucune perte, ainsi que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous le faire connaître avant hier, 1³/₅ Octobre, par M. Spiliotaki, Chef de Section au Ministère des Relations Extérieures.

Aujourd'hui, je m'empresse de porter à votre connaissance que, à la suite des ordres donnés par le Gouvernement, une enquête a eu lieu sur le fait en question; que, d'après le procès-verbal qui a été dressé et signé par le Préfet de Police et M. Hall lui-même, les pertes subies, dans cette circonstance, par ce dernier, ont été évaluées à la somme de 8,000 drachmas, et que le Gouvernement a ordonné, par exception, que cette somme soit restituée à M. Hall dans le délai de huit jours.

Quant à la sureté, dans l'avenir, de la Légation de Sa Majesté Britannique et des maisons habitées par des Anglais, que vous voulez bien me recommander, je me crois heureux de pouvoir vous donner aujourd'hui l'assurance que, à la suite des mesures rigoureuses prises par les nouvelles autorités, l'ordre momentanément troublé pendant les premiers jours de la révolution du 1¹/₃ Octobre, est déjà rétabli, et que nous n'avons plus à craindre des inconvénients de la nature de ceux dont il est question dans votre office susmentionné.

Je saisis, &c.
(Signé) A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre,

Athens, October 1⁵/₇, 1862.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your communication of the 25th instant.

As soon as they learnt that Mr. Hall, English subject, had lost, on the 1²/₄th day of October, some valuable articles, the Provisional Government hastened to make the necessary dispositions in order that no loss might accrue to Mr. Hall, as I had the honour of acquainting you the day before yesterday, the 1³/₅th October, by M. Spiliotaki, Head of a Department in the Foreign Office.

To-day I hasten to bring to your knowledge that, in consequence of the orders given by the Government, inquiry has been made relative to the fact in question; that, according to the statement which has been drawn up and signed by the Prefect of Police and by Mr. Hall himself, the losses suffered by the latter on this occasion have been calculated at the amount of 8,000 drachmas; and that the Government have made the exceptional order that this amount be restored to Mr. Hall within eight days.

With regard to the safety for the future of Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, and of the houses inhabited by English persons, which you call my attention to, I am happy to be able to-day to give you the assurance that, by means of the rigorous measures taken by the new authorities, the transient interruption of order during the first days of the revolution of the 11th/_{23rd} October is already at an end, and that we have no longer reason to fear annoyances of like nature with those treated of in your communication above referred to.

I take, &c.
(Signed) A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 27.

Mr. Hall to Mr. Scarlett.

M. le Ministre,

Athènes, le 30 Octobre, 1862.

JE prends la liberté d'offrir à votre Excellence l'humble expression de la vive et profonde reconnaissance qu'en ma qualité de sujet Anglais je ressens pour la protection puissante qu'elle s'est empressé de m'accorder au sujet de la dévastation de mon atelier et magasin d'horlogerie dans la nuit du Jeudi au Vendredi, 23 et 24 du mois expirant.

Grâces, en effet, à l'intervention immédiate et rigoureuse de votre Excellence, ainsi qu'à sa demande expresse, l'autorité compétente s'est engagé à m'indemniser dans les dix jours des pertes dont j'ai été la victime.

En suppliant donc derechef votre Excellence de daigner agréer la réitération de ma gratitude sans bornes, j'ose la prier également de continuer à me couvrir de sa haute et énergique protection, qui seule peut dans les circonstances actuelles de cette capitale me faire obtenir la justice promise et me donner de sûres garanties pour l'avenir.

(Signé) NICHOLAS HALL.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre,

Athens, October 30, 1862.

I TAKE the liberty of offering to your Excellency the humble expression of the warm and profound gratitude which in my quality of English subject I entertain on account of the powerful protection which you have hastened to afford to me in regard to the havoc made in my workshop and store-rooms for clocks, in the night from Thursday to Friday the 23rd and 24th of the month now expiring.

It has been due, indeed, to the immediate and urgent interference of your Excellency, and also to your express demand, that the competent authority has engaged to indemnify me within ten days for the losses of which I have been the victim.

In supplicating, therefore, your Excellency anew to condescend to accept the repetition of my unbounded gratitude, I venture to beg of you to continue equally to throw over me your high and efficient protection, which alone in the present condition of this capital can enable me to obtain promised justice, and can afford me sure guarantees for the future.

(Signed) NICHOLAS HALL.

No. 28.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 10.)

My Lord,

Athens, October 29, 1862.

HER Majesty's ship "Queen" arrived at the Piræus in the night of the 25th instant.

The next morning Captain Hillyar, in command of her, came up to see me at Athens, and informed me that on the previous day to his arrival on the 24th instant, he met the "Scylla" under Cape St. Angelo, with the King and Queen of Greece on board. After saluting the "Scylla" on account of their Majesties, Captain Hillyar went on board, and

offered them the use of his larger vessel, the "Queen;" but as the weather was fine, and the King and Queen are well acquainted personally with Captain Lambert, in spite of the crowded state of the "Scylla," they preferred continuing their voyage to Corfu, if not to Trieste, in the same ship in which they had embarked in Salamis Bay to leave this country.

I have, &c.
(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

No. 29.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 10.)

(Extract.)

Athens, October 29, 1862.

AFTER the excesses committed at Athens by the revolted troops and the liberated convicts who have been let out of all the prisons throughout Greece, it became necessary to take immediate steps for the prevention of plunder and violence. In consequence, the town has been divided into five districts, and both the students of the University and a body of the respectable inhabitants have been organized into a police force to patrol the town and preserve it from pillage. This measure, added to the energy with which the Provisional Government have got back the soldiers to their barracks and brought them under some control, has greatly diminished the danger and alarm, which was before universal.

I inclose extracts of two letters from Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Athens, Mr. Merlin.

A great many of the most respectable and influential inhabitants of Athens are most anxious for an English Prince as a successor to King Otho, and I hear that the same feeling prevails in general.

I have been very cautious in my own language on this subject, and studiously avoid mentioning the name of any candidate or giving encouragement to the notion that the name of an English Prince will ever be put forward with the sanction of the Queen and Her Majesty's Government.

Inclosure 1 in No. 29.

Vice-Consul Merlin to Mr. Scarlett.

(Extract.)

Athens, October 28, 1862.

SINCE Monday the shops have been open and business has been resumed.

There appears to be an earnest desire amongst all classes for the preservation of order. The Civic Guard now amounts to 1,400 men. M. Sconsé, the richest banker in Athens, was amongst those who patrolled the streets last night with a musket on his shoulder.

The Greeks are very anxious, with the exception of a small reactionist party, that no pretext should be given for an occupation.

The new state of things has been accepted everywhere. Nauplia and Chalcis have given in their adhesion to the Provisional Government. At the former place some 300 troops shut themselves up in the Palamede, and refused to give in; they were brought over on the payment of 900*l.*, and left the town; they have since been captured and disarmed near Corinth. The ex-Ministers have been banished as a precautionary measure.

* The desire for an English Prince is almost universal.

Inclosure 2 in No. 29.

Vice-Consul Merlin to Mr. Scarlett.

(Extract.)

Athens, October 29, 1862.

I THINK Her Majesty's Government need have no apprehension of any invasion of the Turkish provinces at present.

I have lost no opportunity of impressing on the minds of persons of all classes, that any demonstration against the Ottoman provinces would be the most fatal mistake they can make for their country, and that, by so doing, they will instantly forfeit the support of

Great Britain, and give occasion for the Reactionists and others to say that the Greeks are unfit to be an independent nation.

Next to this, the maintenance of order is the greater necessity. There is no doubt that since the outbreak at Nauplia the army has been completely disorganized, and will have to be remodelled.

The Greeks have plenty on their hands, and will require all their patriotism and prudence to get through this crisis in their history.

No. 30.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 10.)

My Lord,

Athens, October 29, 1862.

I CALLED to day on M. Diamantopoulos to return his visit to me. I took the same opportunity of thanking him for the promptitude with which the Provisional Government had attended to the claims made upon them by Mr. Hall, the watchmaker who had been robbed, and I said I felt sure Her Majesty's Government would appreciate the inclination evinced on this occasion to comply with the demands I had made on his behalf.

I afterwards put to him the same question I had asked of M. Boulgaris before, respecting the mode by which it was intended to elect a National Assembly. M. Diamantopoulos answered this at once by saying, that it would be utterly impossible to adhere to the regulations prescribed under the Greek Constitution for the elections; that, in point of fact, the Greek Constitution and both Chambers, as well as the Throne of King Otho, must now be considered to have been abolished altogether by the revolution; and he informed me that it was in contemplation to elect a National Assembly of the same character as that which had been brought into existence for forming a Constitution in 1843, based on a model which was taken from the National Assembly of Epidaurus in the time of Count Capodistrias.

Upon my remarking that by the words of the Proclamation the exclusion of the Baravian Line did not appear to be signified, M. Diamantopoulos affirmed that the Provisional Government, and the nation, were resolved that no Bavarian Prince should succeed to the Throne now vacant.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

No. 31.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 10.)

(Extract.)

Athens, October 30, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of two letters from Mr. St. Vincent Lloyd, Her Majesty's Consul at Syra, describing the outbreak and completion of the revolution in that island.

I understand that the whole country and all its dependencies have now joined the movement.

There probably never has been, in so short a time, a more general rising in any one country attended with so little bloodshed and resistance.

Two hundred men and one officer, I am informed, held out for a time in a battery at Nauplia, and refused absolutely to join the rebellion.

Many acts of pillage have occurred in different places. The Germans suffered much at Athens. The house of the Queen's Chaplain was plundered entirely. He has taken refuge at Dr. Hill's house, as well as a young lady who was brought up and adopted by the Queen, and who fled from the palace to Dr. Hill's. A German village beyond Patissia, about three miles off, was sacked also; and I hear that the Government stores of wheat and grain have everywhere been plundered, which will render it very difficult, or rather impossible, to prevent a great deficit in the public revenue this year. As the proceeds were to have been sold on government account, and as it is very unlikely that the poor peasants will be able to make any further contributions, and there is very little trade going on in the Custom-house, the new Government will find it next to impossible to pay the army and host of employés without resorting to a loan.

The additional security felt at Athens and at the Piræus since the arrival of one of Her Majesty's line-of-battle ships of 86 guns and a crew of 850 men, is very general among the Diplomatic Body and foreign residents in this city.

Many persons have applied to me for protection who considered themselves politically compromised under the recent reign, and I could only, before the arrival of the "Queen," obtain for them an asylum on board the French flag-ship, which was and is still crowded with refugees, to whom Admiral and Madame Touchard have behaved most kindly.

M. Simos, who was Minister of Finance in the Miaulis Government during the Nauplian revolt, has taken refuge with his family on board the "Queen," after a request I made to Captain Hillyar to receive all of them in his ship.

Colonel Karpounis and his family, for whom I sent my carriage when the revolution broke out on the 23rd, and who passed the rest of that night at Her Majesty's Legation, are now on board the "Zénobie." My daughter also went on board the French ship, but upon the arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Queen" I went down to the Piræus on the following day, and as the state of Athens had greatly improved, I felt no hesitation in bringing her back to the Legation.

On the previous night, which I passed on board the "Queen," the Greek frigate "Amalia" returned from Kalimaki, on the Isthmus of Corinth, where she had been sent to bring M. Rouffos, of Patras, to the Piræus, one of the three members of the Provisional Government. Upon his arrival that night at Athens, I am informed that he met with a very triumphant and noisy reception; repeated volleys were fired from muskets loaded with ball, as is the custom here: and, as has frequently occurred since the outbreak, my house was struck continually with bullets, not a few of which have been picked up in the garden, and even on the roof the house, where there is an open terrace.

I merely mention this to illustrate the inconvenient manner in which the Athenians testify their joy on these occasions; but I am ready to do justice to the tranquillity which now prevails, and which, by the energy of the authorities now at the helm, and the measures they have taken, I hope will continue. At the same time I must observe that until the soldiers still wandering about with their arms are brought under control, and until the scourings of the prisons in Greece have been again captured who were from most prisons turned loose upon society, it is hardly to be expected that robberies, both in town and country, will not be frequent. An attempt was made, the night before last, upon a school near the residence of General Church, but the students and townspeople who patrol at night arrived in time to prevent the accomplishment of the act, and some of the robbers were taken.

M. Boulgaris came last night to my house, and observed that the Marines from Her Majesty's ship "Scylla" were still doing duty here, and inquired whether I would not have a Greek guard instead, as the appearance of a British uniform at the Legation implied want of confidence. I replied to this that in the present still uncertain state of affairs I considered myself to be at liberty to be the judge of this necessity until order was re-established.

I added that no one was more desirous than I was that the speedy restoration of order throughout Greece should make it wholly unnecessary to occupy any part of it with foreign troops.

I forgot to inform M. Boulgaris that my Prussian colleague, Count Keyserling, accepted the offer of a Greek guard of soldiers which I had declined, and that the consequence was that they had broken open a cupboard containing some old Prussian archives, after which he wisely declined their services and protection at the Prussian Legation.

M. Bourée, my French colleague, has still ten French Marines from the "Zénobie" at the French Legation, a mile out of town.

Inclosure 1 in No. 31.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Scarlett.

Sir,

Syra, October 25, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Excellency that, about 10 A.M. on the 23rd instant, a telegram from Athens, addressed to the "Greek People" here, informed them of the fall of King Otho, and of the institution of the new Provisional Government. This was at once proclaimed, and appeared to meet the approbation of the whole population, not the slightest opposition being offered.

The greatest excitement prevailed, and continued during the day; the first thing done by the populace being to let loose all the prisoners, which included many thieves and two murderers.

Happily everything passed off without any disorder or disturbance; but as, at the first news, it was impossible to foresee what might happen, and as I had received applications to take charge of valuables, and give asylum in case of need, I availed myself of the

steamer about to start for Smyrna to inform the Senior British Naval Officer on that station, through Her Majesty's Consul there, of the circumstances, and request the former to come with or send a British vessel of war here, should his duty or instructions permit him to do so (understanding, the day before, that your Excellency had already dispatched Her Majesty's steam-ship "Pelican" to Corfu), but I have had no reply as yet.

Somewhat later in the day, all the Local Government employés were confirmed in their situations, on the understanding each was to take an oath of allegiance to the new Provisional Government, which condition was accepted and complied with by all, without exception, from the Nomarch downwards; and towards evening I dispatched the following telegram to your Excellency:—

"New Provisional Government proclaimed. Local authorities confirmed in place. No disturbance, but prisoners released."

The night, and all yesterday and to-day, passed off perfectly quiet, some of the prisoners having been retaken, and there has been no disturbance. There is, however, great uneasiness existing in the minds of the merchants, shopkeepers, and wealthier and better classes, that there is no security for property; for, though the police seem very active, still no extraordinary measures seem to be taken to guard against a *coup de main* from any band of thieves that might unite for the purpose of plunder.

The instructions from Her Majesty's Legation to my predecessor, relative to the attempt of March last, were, to observe a strict neutrality, and I have of course adopted them, and shall continue to do so until otherwise instructed by your Excellency; but as it is probable I and my colleagues may be invited to a *Te Deum* shortly, to celebrate the Revolution, and as my presence at it would amount to a demonstration on my part, I beg to be informed if, in case of being invited, I should accept the invitation or decline to attend.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 31.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Scarlett.

(Extract.)

Syra, October 26, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's telegram of this day, instructing me to decline the invitation referred to in my despatch of the 25th instant.

The steamer from Smyrna is just arrived, and I have received a despatch from Mr. Consul Blunt, in reply to mine to him of the 23rd instant (reported also in my despatch to your Excellency of the 25th October), stating that there is no British vessel of war in the port of Smyrna, nor in the vicinity, that he is aware of. Mr. Consul Blunt states, also, having forwarded copy of my despatch to Her Majesty's Embassy at Constantinople.

To-day, since noon, there is great excitement again in the town. A certain Paleologo, exiled to Smyrna, was expected to return, and vast crowds assembled to welcome him. He did not, however, arrive. Nevertheless, the crowds continue to assemble, and go about from one part of the town to another, and the cries and discharge of fire-arms are incessant.

Several publications of the new Provisional Government at Athens have arrived, and are distributed here, rejoicing in the overthrow of King Otho, and exhorting the people to preserve order; but neither I nor my colleagues have received any direct official communication, that I am aware of, from the Local Government here.

No. 32.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 10.)

(Extract.)

Athens, October 31, 1862.

ALTHOUGH the hope of inducing an English Prince to ascend the throne of Greece is a feeling which prevails, I believe, at this moment throughout the country among the majority of all the educated classes, no one has yet spoken to me on the subject, and I have studiously avoided that topic myself on all occasions both in conversation with the Greeks and with my own colleagues.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received November 10.)

(Extract.)

St. Petersburg, October 31, 1862.

PRINCE GORTCHAKOFF had the goodness this morning to show me a telegraphic despatch from Baron Brunnow, containing the substance of a communication which he had received from your Lordship relative to the affairs of Greece.

According to this report, Her Majesty's Government desire to act in concert with the other Powers; they intend to leave Her Majesty's Minister at Athens; they will abstain for the present from any official recognition of the Provisional Government; they will send a naval force into the Greek waters for the protection of Her Majesty's subjects; and they will provide against any aggression on the part of the Greeks against the Turkish territory.

The Vice-Chancellor said he was glad to be able, in the outset of this question, to follow the same course as Her Majesty's Government. His Excellency then read me a portion of a letter to Baron Brunnow which was sent off this morning. In this letter the Russian Ambassador is informed that the Government of the Emperor also wish to co-operate with the other Powers; that Count Bloudoff will remain in Greece; that the revolutionary authorities will not be officially recognized; and that a single frigate, the "Great Admiral," will be dispatched to the scene of disturbance. The Government of the Emperor do not at present send a larger force, as they desire to abstain from anything like the exercise of influence or intimidation, but if necessary another ship will be added hereafter. Nothing is said about Turkey.

Prince Gortchakoff goes on to affirm that the Government of the Emperor will adhere to their obligations under existing Treaties, and especially to that engagement by which the protecting Powers have declared the members of their respective reigning families incapable of occupying the Throne of Greece, unless this engagement should be dissolved by common consent. His Excellency then states that on one point the Emperor will not fail to insist, namely, that the future Sovereign of Greece, whoever he may be, shall belong to the national religion, in conformity with the stipulations in force on that subject. He concludes by observing that the late catastrophe might be deduced from causes which had long been apparent to the Imperial Cabinet, and concerning which their opinions had never been concealed from the Hellenic Government.

I thanked Prince Gortchakoff for his obliging communication, and then put the following question to him:—If a Prince of the House of Bavaria should present himself, professing the Orthodox religion, and fulfilling all the provisions of the Treaty, would he have that degree of moral support on the part of the Imperial Government which could be exercised without applying an unjust constraint on the Greek people, and which would appear conformable to the spirit of the Treaty by which the three Powers had recognized the Bavarian Dynasty, and regulated the succession?

The Vice-Chancellor replied that he had no ill-will whatever to the Bavarian family. In the case which I suggested he would see what could be done, but all must depend on circumstances; he could not express himself decidedly in the matter.

I then remarked to Prince Gortchakoff that it might be found that there was no Prince of the House of Bavaria disposed to ascend the Throne of Greece in the conditions of the Treaty, or it might appear that the Greeks were so absolutely set against the Dynasty that that Government could not be established among them with any chance of success. The throne might become, for either of these reasons, virtually vacant; in such a case, if I understood him rightly, the Imperial Government declared the stipulation to be binding by which members of the reigning families of three Protecting Powers were excluded from the Throne of Greece.

Prince Gortchakoff replied that such was and had always been the resolution of the Emperor and that of his Government. The stipulation referred to could only be cancelled by the mutual consent of the three Contracting Parties.

I concluded by saying to Prince Gortchakoff that I was satisfied your Lordship would be highly gratified by the tenor of his letter to Baron Brunnow, and that Her Majesty's Government would be happy to find themselves in harmony with the Government of Russia.

No. 34.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received November 10.)

(Extract.)

St. Petersburg, November 4, 1862.

I HAVE communicated to Prince Gortchakoff the substance of your Lordship's telegram of the 1st instant* relative to the affairs of Greece. His Excellency had received one to the same effect from Baron Brunnow. He expressed the pleasure with which he found himself acting in harmony with Her Majesty's Government, and said that he believed the French Government would be found very much of the same way of thinking.

His Excellency availed himself of this occasion to lay considerable stress on the right of the Greek people to determine their own destinies, and on the injustice of which the Protecting Powers would be guilty in exerting any constraint in this matter.

No. 35.

Earl Russell to Lord Napier.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 10, 1862.

I RECEIVED, on the 1st instant, your Excellency's telegram of the 31st, reporting that Prince Gortchakoff had observed to you that the mutual consent of Great Britain, France, and Russia was requisite before the stipulations by which members of the reigning families in those countries are excluded from the throne of Greece could be annulled, and that his Excellency announced his adherence to the course adopted by Her Majesty's Government as reported by Baron Brunnow in a telegram received from him.

In that telegram, as appears from your despatch of the 31st ultimo, Baron Brunnow correctly reported that I informed him that Her Majesty's Government desired to act in concert with France and Russia; that Her Majesty's Minister at Athens would abstain for the present from recognizing the Provisional Government; that some British ships of war would be sent to the coast of Greece for the protection of the persons and property of British subjects; and that Her Majesty's Government would provide against any aggression on Turkey by the Greeks.

I stated to your Excellency, in reply to your telegram of the 31st of October, that Her Majesty's Government were glad to hear the view taken by Prince Gortchakoff of the mutual obligations of the Protecting Powers, and that Her Majesty's Government had no doubt that those Powers would agree as to their duties and obligations in regard to Greece.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 36.

Mr. Elliot to Mr. Hammond.—(Received November 10.)

Sir,

Downing Street, November 8, 1862.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to transmit to you, for the information of Lord Russell, copy of a despatch from the Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands, dated the 27th October, respecting the arrival of the King and Queen of Greece at Corfu.

I am, &c.

(Signed) THOS. F. ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 36.

Sir H. Storks to the Duke of Newcastle.

(Extract.)

Corfu, October 27, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Grace that their Majesties the King and Queen of Greece arrived at Corfu, last from Salamis Bay, this morning at 4 A.M. At 7 o'clock I proceeded on board, and had an audience of their Majesties, and learned from themselves how events had compelled them to leave Greece.

It appears that on their return from a tour in the provinces, which their Majesties had been making on board the frigate "Amalia," they were met by the French Admiral the entrance of the Piræus, who informed them that disturbances had broken out in Athens, that a Provisional Government had been formed, and that it would not be safe for them to land. Her Majesty's Minister, Mr. Scarlett, of whose kindness and attention both the King and Queen spoke in very warm terms, was at the Piræus, on board Her

* See No. 35.

Majesty's ship "Scylla," and it was arranged that their Majesties should proceed from the Piræus to Salamis Bay in the frigate "Amalia," with Her Majesty's ship "Scylla" in company.

On arrival at Salamis Bay, the ship's company of the frigate showed so bad a spirit that it was considered more prudent for their Majesties to leave their own vessel for the "Scylla." Captain Lambert informs me that on leaving the "Amalia," a royal salute was fired, but the crew refused to man yards. As soon as the King and the Queen were on board, the colours were lowered and the royal arms cut out of them. They were then re-hoisted, the ship's company manned yards, cheered, and fired a royal salute.

The King and Queen expressed their gratitude for the reception they had met with on board Her Majesty's ship "Scylla," and they left at 9 o'clock for Venice.

The fort and Her Majesty's ship "Marlborough" saluted the Greek Royal standard, which was flying on board the "Scylla," at 8 o'clock. Vice-Admiral Sir William Martin leaves to-day in the "Marlborough" for Athens, at which place Her Majesty's ship "Queen" arrived on Saturday last.

The Ionian States are perfectly tranquil, and will, I hope, continue so; but I am afraid that the state of Greece is most alarming. It appears that all the convicts had been released from their prisons, the brigands are overrunning the country, and many persons are seeking a refuge in these Islands.

The French gun-boat "La Biche" arrived in company with the "Scylla," which towed her the greater part of the way from Salamis Bay.

P.S.—Since writing the above I have received your Grace's telegram of the 27th instant. I offered the palace to the King and Queen of Greece, and placed myself entirely at their Majesties' disposal, if I could be of any use. They thanked me, but told me they were going on without delay.

I shall continue to furnish to your Grace all the information which I receive about affairs in Greece.

No. 37.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received November 12.)

Sir,

Admiralty, November 11, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the duplicate of a letter dated the 31st October, from Vice-Admiral Sir William Martin, with its inclosure, relating to the state of affairs in Greece.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 37.

Vice-Admiral Sir W. Martin to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

My Lord, *"Marlborough," at the Piræus, October 31, 1862.*

IN my letter of the 27th instant I had the honour to report the arrival of their Majesties the King and Queen of Greece at Corfu, and of their departure for Venice.

2. The intelligence brought by the "Scylla," respecting the state of anarchy reigning at Athens, decided me on proceeding thither without loss of time, and I left in my flag-ship on the same day, and arrived on the night of the 29th. I found lying here the "Queen" and "Pelican," and the French ship "Zénobie," bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Touchard, and the "Eumenide," despatch-vessel.

3. I placed myself in communication with Her Majesty's Minister, and from his Excellency, as well as from other sources, I have obtained the following intelligence regarding the revolution.

4. All the reports I have received at Corfu respecting the anarchy reigning at Athens were either incorrect or greatly exaggerated; the result, probably, of the fears of their Majesties, and their followers.

5. The only loss of life that occurred was on the nights of the 23rd and 24th, when a body of gendarmes who remained faithful to the King attempted to quell the insurrection, and five men were killed, and a few others wounded. Some of the houses of the obnoxious Ministers were at the same time attacked, and a few robberies were committed by the felons who had been liberated from the jails, but several of them were afterwards captured by a patrol of the students of the University. The Commandant of the troops at the Piræus died from the wounds he received at the hands of the rabble. He had taken

refuge on board the French flag-ship, after which he landed and endeavoured to regain over the troops to the Royal cause.

6. Prior to the departure of the "Scylla," six Marines were sent to Athens to protect the British Embassy, and a small party of French seamen was sent at the same time to protect the French Embassy, and they still remain there; but since the night of the 25th both the Piræus and Athens have remained perfectly quiet and orderly. None but the troops and militia appear armed, and it is universally believed that no apprehension need be entertained of further disturbances for the present. The Royal Palace has been scrupulously protected, and all the personal property of their Majesties and suite, and the King's private papers, have been handed over to the care of the foreign Ministers.

7. A Commission of three and a Provisional Government were formed on the 27th instant, consisting of the persons named in the inclosed list. They are represented to belong to the most wealthy and respectable families in the country.

8. I have already reported to their Lordships that this revolution first broke out at Vonitza, and extended to Missolonghi and Patras. It next spread to Corinth and Athens, and quickly became general. All the army and navy have declared in favour of the Provisional Government, and the revolt has been completed everywhere in a peaceful manner, except in the cases already narrated. It seems to be generally accepted that it was caused by the universal dislike throughout the country to their Majesties, and to the King not governing in accordance with the Constitution. The Greek nation has long determined on having a change of Dynasty, and a Constitutional Monarchy. The Provisional Government is making arrangements for a general election, and for a meeting of the National Assembly, who will make known the desire of the people to the foreign Powers. I have heard both here and from the ports on the west coast that a strong desire is manifested to have an English Prince, but this is a subject upon which I am careful not to enter in any conversation at this place.

9. Commander N. Salmon, of the "Icarus," was at Santa Maura on the 24th, and Missolonghi on the 27th instant, where he reports everything orderly and peaceable.

10. As the observation was made yesterday in conversation on board the "Zénobie," that it was presumed the French Commander-in-chief would be ordered here if it was intended for me to remain, I have caused it to be generally known that I shall leave here in a few days. I do not see that any advantage could arise from a number of foreign ships of war being collected here, and I am satisfied that the "Queen," with the "Pelican" and "Alacrity," are ample for the protection of British interests for the present.

11. Having consulted with Her Majesty's Minister on the subject, I have arranged to leave here in my flag-ship after receiving my despatches from the Admiralty on the 3rd proximo. I shall proceed to Smyrna to show the flag, as that port has not been visited for some time by a ship of war, after which I shall return to Malta. The "Edgar," bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral S. C. Dacres, will wait at Malta my arrival.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. F. MARTIN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 37.

List of the Provisional Government and Ministry established in Greece on the 23rd October, 1862.

Commission in charge of the Government.

Demetrio Boulgaris, President.
Admiral C. Canaris (Senator), Member.
Benezelli Roufos (of Patras), Member.

Ministry.

Interior	..	..	T. Zaimis.
Foreign	..	..	A. Diamantopoulos.
War	..	..	General Mavromichalis.
Marine	..	..	D. Californas.
Finance	...	..	T. Manginas.
Justice	..	..	Coumoundouros.
Public Instruction	..	..	E. Delageorgy.
Ecclesiastical..	..	..	B. Nicolopoulos.

Mr. Erskine to Earl Russell.—(Received November 13.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, November 2, 1862.

FOR some days past the Greek population of this capital have manifested their excitement at the result of the Revolution in Greece by a series of demonstrations of a somewhat boisterous character. The streets have been thronged from morning till night by Hellenes, Ionians, and Rayahs, headed by flags and bands of music, shouting in applause of the Provisional Government and the Revolution.

The night before last a dense crowd of such persons visited the different Legations, and amongst others Her Majesty's Embassy. After a vain attempt on the part of the porter and cavasses to shut the gate, the crowd forced its way into the grounds surrounding the palace, vociferating in favour of Her Majesty and the British nation, and insisting that some acknowledgment of their visit should be made. After waiting a few minutes in the hope of their withdrawal, I at length went down to the entrance, and addressing the persons who were nearest to me, I said that as Her Majesty's Government had not yet made known their sentiments with respect to the Greek Revolution, it would be improper on my part to express my opinion as to that event; that I thanked them for the goodwill they had shown towards the British nation, but trusted they would now leave the Embassy grounds. These remarks having been translated, were received by the crowd with perfect good humour, and in a few minutes it quietly dispersed.

No serious disturbance has yet occurred. The streets are continually patrolled by strong bodies of troops, and the police have been strongly reinforced. The authorities have shown good sense and moderation in their treatment of this effervescence, and I am bound to add that the Greeks have not only abstained from any offensive exclamations against the Turks, but have included the Sultan in the enthusiastic shouts with which they greet the name of Garibaldi, the Republic, and the Revolution.

The Greek Chargé d'Affaires has now, however, received an intimation from the Porte that these demonstrations must cease; and I trust that to-morrow vigorous measures will be adopted to prevent the renewal of scenes which are not without danger in a town inhabited by such large masses of Greeks, native and foreign.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Earl Cowley to Earl Russell.—(Received November 15.)

(Extract.)

Paris, November 14, 1862.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 8th instant, I have communicated it, as also the instructions to Her Majesty's Minister at Athens inclosed in it, to M. Drouyn de Lhuys.

His Excellency, in thanking me for the communication, observed that I was already aware that his own instructions to M. Bourée had been conceived in the same sense.

Earl Russell to Lord Napier.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 15, 1862.

I HAVE received and laid before the Queen your despatch of the 4th instant.

With regard to the succession to the Greek Throne, Her Majesty's Government are disposed to agree with Prince Gortchakoff in respecting the right of the Greek people to determine their own destinies, and in deprecating the injustice of which the Protecting Powers would be guilty in exerting any constraint upon the Greeks in this matter.

Yet this respect has its limits, and these limits are to be found in the original views of the three Protecting Powers when they first undertook to interfere between Turkey and Greece, and the engagements into which they have since entered in regard to Greece.

In the first Protocol, signed at St. Petersburg in April 1826, by the Duke of Wellington, and Count Nesselrode, and Prince Lieven, it was stipulated, in Article V, that the two Powers, Great Britain and Russia, would not seek to exercise "any exclusive influence" in Greece.

The VIth Article of the Treaty of London, of July 1827, repeats this engagement, and binds France as well as Great Britain and Russia.

In the same spirit, the Protocol of February 1830 binds the three Powers to the following effect: "The Government of Greece shall be monarchical and hereditary by order of primogeniture. It shall be confided to a Prince who cannot be chosen from among those belonging to families reigning in the States who signed the Treaty of July 1827," &c.

In this manner the three Powers barred out that "exclusive influence" which the Duke of Wellington and Count Nesselrode renounced in the Protocol of 1826.

Prince Gortchakoff has been the first, on the present occasion, to appeal to that engagement, and to state most truly that it could not be departed from without the consent of the three Powers who were parties to it.

But as it was wisely intended to prevent those jealousies and dissensions which could not fail to arise from an exclusive influence exercised through a member of one of the three families, so, likewise, it could not now be departed from without the utmost danger of giving rise to those jealousies and dissensions.

Her Majesty, therefore, could not recognize any Prince belonging to the Imperial families of France or Russia, or the Royal family of Great Britain.

So far, I trust there may be a concurrence of views among the three Powers. But the Russian Government, it appears, lay great stress on the provision of the Greek Constitution and subsequent engagements which provide that the successor of King Otho should be a member of the Greek Church.

Now this, it appears to Her Majesty's Government, is a question upon which no constraint should be used towards the Greek nation. The three Powers have not in this respect, as in the former, a common object. Great Britain and France could not object to see a Protestant or a Roman Catholic Prince chosen by the Greek Parliament.

Her Majesty's Government will, in this matter, respect the decisions of the Greek nation. If they are content to have a Protestant or a Roman Catholic Prince, and to stipulate that his sons should be brought up as members of the National Church, it would be unreasonable for Her Majesty's Government to object to such a decision. Nor am I aware that there is anything in our engagements which refers to this matter, otherwise than in respect to the Bavarian Prince who it was expected would succeed King Otho.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 41.

Earl Russell to Mr. Scarlett.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, November 17, 1862.

I HAVE received your telegram of the 10th instant, reporting that the Provisional Government of Greece considered the renunciation by the Powers parties to the Treaty of 1827 in regard to the Sovereign of Greece being chosen from among their families, to have no longer a binding effect after the fall of the Bavarian dynasty, which is considered to be complete; and that a strong feeling prevails throughout the country in favour of the election of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred to the vacant throne, in which case the provisions of the 40th Article of the Constitution, in regard to the religion of the successor to King Otho, would not be allowed to stand in the way of His Royal Highness's assumption of the sovereignty.

In reply to your request for instructions as to the course you should pursue in this state of things, I have to desire that you will not interfere in regard to the election of the future Sovereign of Greece without direct instructions from Her Majesty's Government. Their desire is that the Greeks should be left free to choose their own King. With regard to the obligations of the three protecting Powers towards one another, I may have further communications to make to you.

No. 42.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 17.)

(Extract.)

Athens, November 7, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose two Decrees of the Greek Provisional Government dated the 5th instant, by which it is announced that on December $\frac{10}{2}$ a National

Assembly will be convoked for the purpose of regulating the future government of Greece, and in order to choose a new Sovereign.

The mode of electing this Assembly is to be like that adopted, under the Constitution, for the Chamber of Deputies, by universal suffrage.

The same electoral lists are to be used.

It is, however, intended that each province should double the number of members elected for the Assembly.

There is also a provision that Deputies should be elected as members of the Assembly by the Greeks residing in other parts of the world at large.

For this purpose, as will be seen by one of the Decrees, wherever there are 100 Greeks of Hellenic origin and rights, they may send one Deputy; from 100 to 1,000, two; from 1,000 to 10,000 and upwards, three.

At first the intention was that the Turkish Provinces of Thessaly and Epirus should be represented by refugees from those provinces residing and naturalized in Greece. Against this project my Turkish colleague loudly protested; and to avoid offending the susceptibilities of the Turkish Government, the measure has been abandoned by the Provisional Government.

Inclosure 1 in No. 42.

Programme of the Provisional Government relative to the Election of Members of the National Assembly.

(Traduction.)

ROYAUME DE GRECE.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire à tous les Grecs.

Concitoyens!

LA mission principale dont la volonté de la nation glorieusement manifestée nous a chargé dans la nuit du $\frac{10}{2}$ au $\frac{11}{3}$ Octobre, était la convocation de l'Assemblée Nationale, à laquelle appartient le droit de régler définitivement (ce qui concerne) la constitution de l'État, de se prononcer sur le choix du Prince, et accomplir l'œuvre nationale dont la main du Seigneur a sanctifié le commencement. En remplissant cette tâche nous convoquons à Athènes l'Assemblée des Plénipotentiaires de la nation pour le $\frac{10}{2}$ du mois de Décembre, en bénissant en même temps le Très-Haut, qui a donné de la force et de la consistance à l'amour de la patrie dans le cœur de tous nos concitoyens, et qui nous a accordé le bonheur de voir l'œuvre commencée marcher jusqu'à présent avec enthousiasme et fraternité.

L'accomplissement de cette mission nous impose en même temps le devoir de nous occuper de la rédaction de la Loi concernant les élections des Plénipotentiaires de la nation. Dans nos délibérations sur ce sujet présidait toujours la conscience de la volonté que la nation avait toujours déclarée et manifestée par des protestations souvent répétées dans le passé, de la volonté, disons-nous, d'assurer aux électeurs une liberté absolue concernant leurs convictions; de protéger cette conviction contre toute influence matérielle et morale, afin qu'elle soit manifestée pleine et parfaite, et qu'une fois énoncée elle puisse se conserver pure et inaltérable.

Mais le Décret concernant l'élection des représentants de la quatrième Assemblée Nationale du mois de Mars 1829 peut-être satisfaisait-il aux besoins de l'époque où il avait été publié, mais dans la suite des temps son application a prouvé son imperfection, et nous croyons qu'il ne pourrait remplir les vœux de la nation, fondé qu'il était sur un système d'élection qui ne pourrait plus interpréter fidèlement la volonté des électeurs. La loi du $\frac{18}{30}$ Mars, 1844, concernant l'élection des Députés, quoique fondée d'après le jugement de l'Assemblée Nationale du $\frac{3}{15}$ Septembre, sur des bases vraies et justes, n'est pas moins imparfaite que le Décret ci-dessus mentionné; et c'est à cause de ses imperfections que la volonté nationale a été altérée et falsifiée dans le passé avec une audace inconcevable dans la violation de ses dispositions.

Il était donc de toute nécessité que notre œuvre ne se bornât pas à établir seulement la Loi d'après laquelle doivent être faite les élections des Plénipotentiaires, mais qu'elle s'étendît aussi à la rédaction des dispositions qui puissent remplir les lacunes de la loi qu'une longue expérience a mises au jour, afin que l'expression de la conviction des électeurs soit garantie par une force irrésistible.

Par ces dispositions on observe le vote général, et l'on maintient libres et intactes les suffrages des électeurs; on satisfait à un grand besoin national, sans le moindre retard, dans l'exécution des élections, puis qu'on conserve les listes électorales d'après la Loi du

$\frac{18}{30}$ Mars, 1844, concernant l'élection des Députés, tandis que leur nouvelle rédaction et leur vérification pourrait retarder les élections des Plénipotentiaires ; mais on pourra remédier aux inconvénients qu'offrait l'état vicieux, car il est permis pendant la votation de rectifier les listes défectueuses et de découvrir la vérité, après avoir établi des garanties suffisantes. On protégera pendant les élections les droits des partis adverses sans toutefois perdre de vue l'ordre et l'intérêt public. Enfin, on invite à l'Assemblée Nationale des Plénipotentiaires non seulement des citoyens Grecs habitant la Grèce, mais aussi ceux qui, quoique loin de la patrie commune, travaillent avec beaucoup de zèle à relever le nom Grec (à son ancienne splendeur) et qui ont à cœur le bonheur de la mère patrie. L'importance de la mission dont les Plénipotentiaires seront chargés sera bien observée, chaque province étant tenue de fournir un double nombre de Plénipotentiaires de celui qu'elle envoyait de Députés.

En déclarant dans toute sa vigueur pour les élections des Plénipotentiaires la Loi du $\frac{18}{30}$ Mars, 1844, modifiée et complétée par le Décret annexé à notre programme, nous invitons nos concitoyens à élire leurs Plénipotentiaires d'après ces dispositions. Il est bien probable toutefois que l'imperfection qui se rattache toujours à toute œuvre humaine se trouve aussi dans le susdit Décret qui modifie et complète à la fois cette Loi ; cependant nous espérons que la vénération pour la liberté que l'histoire de notre patrie nous offre comme caractère irrécusable du Grec, fera que nos concitoyens s'abstiennent de toute influence dans les élections et qu'ils respectent leur conviction manifestée par le vote.

Concitoyens ! Puisse le bon Dieu, qui n'a jamais abandonné la Grèce, vous unir par le sentiment de fraternité et de concorde dans l'exercice de votre droit souverain, afin que notre chère patrie conserve pendant le mouvement de cette élection son front pur et noble.

Athènes, le ^{23 Octobre} _{5 Novembre}, 1862.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire,
(Signé) D. G. BOULGARIS, *Président*.
C. CANARIS.

Les Ministres de l'Etat,
(Signé) TH. A. ZAIMIS.
T. MANGHINAS.
A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.
A. COUMOUNDOUROS.
D. CALIFRONAS.
D. MAVROMICHALIS.
B. C. NICOLOPOULOS.
Le Secrétaire-Général,
N. A. CHATZOPOULOS.

(Translation.)

KINGDOM OF GREECE.

The Provisional Government to all the Greeks.

Fellow-citizens !

THE principal mission with which the national will, gloriously manifested, charged us on the night from the $\frac{10}{22}$ to the $\frac{11}{23}$ October, was the convocation of the National Assembly, to which belongs the right to regulate definitely what relates to the constitution of the State, to pronounce regarding the choice of a Prince, and to bring to an end the national task whose commencement has been sanctified by the hand of the Lord.

For the accomplishment of this purpose we convoke to Athens the Assembly of the Plenipotentiaries of the nation on the $\frac{10}{22}$ of the month of December, at the same time blessing the Most High, who has given force and consistency to the love of country in the hearts of all our fellow-citizens, and who has granted to us the happiness of seeing the work commenced progress hitherto with enthusiasm and a fraternal spirit.

In order to accomplish this mission the duty is at the same time imposed upon us of concerning ourselves with the promulgation of the law relative to the election of the Plenipotentiaries of the nation. In our deliberations on this subject a conscientious sense of the desire which the nation had always declared and manifested by protests oftentimes repeated formerly, was always uppermost,—of the desire, we say, to assure to the electors absolute liberty in respect to their convictions ; to protect such convictions against every material or moral influence, to the end that they should be manifested fully and perfectly, and that, once proclaimed, they might be preserved pure and incorruptible.

Though the Decree relating to the election of representatives in the fourth National Assembly of the month of March 1829, was perhaps adequate to the wants of the period in which it was published, yet, in times following, its imperfection in practice has been proved, and we believe that it could not fulfil the desires of the nation, founded as it was upon a system of election which could not any longer interpret with fidelity the will of the

electors. The law of March $\frac{18}{30}$, 1844, relative to the election of Deputies, although founded upon the judgment of the National Assembly of September $\frac{3}{15}$, upon true and just bases, is not less imperfect than the above-mentioned Decree; and it is because of its imperfections that the national will has been disguised and falsely represented in past time with an inconceivable audacity in the violation of its provisions.

There was, therefore, every necessity that our work should not be confined merely to laying down the law according to which the elections of the Plenipotentiaries ought to take place, but that it should be extended also to the promulgation of the provisions which might stop up the breaches of the law which long experience has brought to light, in order that the expression of the convictions of the electors should be secured by irresistible force.

By these dispositions the general vote is respected, and the suffrages of the electors are kept free and untouched; a great national need is met, without the least delay in the conclusion of the elections, and meanwhile the electoral lists, according to the Law of the $\frac{18}{30}$ th March, 1844, relative to the election of Deputies, are retained, while their fresh promulgation and their verification might retard the elections of the Plenipotentiaries; it will, however, be in our power to remedy the inconveniences occurring in the faulty system, for during the voting it is permitted to rectify the defective lists, and to bring out the truth, after having laid down sufficient guarantees. During the elections the rights of opposing parties will be defended, without, in the meanwhile, losing sight of the public order and interest. Lastly, we invite to the National Assembly of the Plenipotentiaries, not only Greek citizens dwelling in Greece, but those likewise who, though far away from the common native land, labour with great zeal to raise the Greek name (to its ancient splendour), and who have at heart the welfare of the mother country. The importance of the mission with which the Plenipotentiaries are to be charged will be duly recognized, each Province being bound to send a number of Plenipotentiaries the double of that which she sent of Deputies.

In declaring the Law of the $\frac{18}{30}$ th March, 1844, modified and completed by the Decree annexed to our Programme, to be in its full force for the election of Plenipotentiaries, we invite our fellow-citizens to elect their Plenipotentiaries according to these dispositions. It is still very probable that the imperfection which ever pertains to every human work will be found also in the above-mentioned Decree, which at once modifies and completes that Law; nevertheless, we trust that the veneration for liberty which the history of our country presents to us as an undeniable characteristic of the Greek, will cause our fellow-citizens to avoid using any influence in the elections, and to respect convictions manifested in votes.

Fellow-citizens! may the goodness of God, who has never forsaken Greece, unite you by the sentiment of fraternity and of concord in the exercise of your sovereign rights, that, in the end, our dear land may preserve during the agitation of this election her pure and noble front.

Athens, ^{October 23}_{November 5} 1862.

The Provisional Government,
(Signed) D. G. BOULGARIS, *President*.
C. CANARIS.

The Ministers of State,
(Signed) TH. A. ZAIMIS.
T. MANGHINAS.
A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.
A. COUMOUNDOUROS.
D. CALIFRONAS.
D. MAVROMICHALIS.
B. C. NICOLOPOULOS.
The Secretary-General,
N. A. CHATZOPOULOS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 42.

Decree for the Election of Members of the National Assembly.

(Traduction.)

ROYAUME DE GRECE.
Le Gouvernement Provisoire.

SUR l'avis du Conseil Ministériel de l'Etat, et sur la proposition du Ministre de l'Intérieur, nous décrétons :

Article 1. Les dispositions de la Loi du $\frac{18}{30}$ Mars, 1844, concernant l'élection des Députés, sont en vigueur aussi pour l'élection des Plénipotentiaires, tant qu'elles ne sont pas modifiées par les dispositions suivantes.

Art. 2. Le nombre des Plénipotentiaires qui seront élus dans chaque province pour l'Assemblée Nationale, prochainement constituée, sera double de celui des Députés d'après le § 2, Article 1, de la Loi du $\frac{18}{30}$ Mars, 1844.

Art. 3. On élira un Plénipotentiaire dans chacune des colonies fondées à Adamantes, à Minoa, et à la Nouvelle Pella, selon les dispositions de la loi.

Art. 4. Les sujets Grecs, depuis le nombre de cent jusqu'à mille âmes, dans quelque pays étranger qu'ils se trouvent, auront le droit d'élire un Plénipotentiaire; et depuis les mille jusqu'à dix mille on élira deux, et trois s'ils dépassent les dix mille.

Si les Grecs habitants à une même ville ne forment pas le nombre requis par l'Article 4, ils pourront se rendre dans une autre ville du même Etat afin que dans leur union avec les habitants Grecs de cette ville ils puissent compléter le nombre requis pour l'élection d'un Plénipotentiaire.

L'élection des Plénipotentiaires des sujets Grecs résidant dans l'étranger aura lieu dans le Consulat compétent, d'après le Décret qui sera publié à cet effet.

Art. 5. Les Sous-Préfets dans l'espace de cinq jours à partir de celui de la réception du présent Décret dresseront et enverront au Préfet de la province une liste parfaite et complète de tous les prétendants qui dans leurs communes respectives auraient les qualités indiquées d'après l'Article 18 de la Loi du $\frac{18}{30}$ Mars, 1844. Les Nomarques, aussitôt qu'ils auront réunis toutes les listes des communes de leurs districts, ce qui doit se faire dans l'espace de huit jours à partir de l'expiration du délai de cinq jours ci-dessus mentionné, les transmettront en forme d'un tableau sommaire au Président du Tribunal de Première Instance du district.

Si avant l'envoi de ces listes au Président du Tribunal, on portait des plaintes au Nomarque, soit sur l'omission de quelques uns qui auraient pu être portés sur la liste, comme ayant les qualités requises, soit pour y avoir été inscrits sans posséder ces qualités, ou pour les avoir perdues, le Nomarque examinera immédiatement l'affaire et en décide d'une manière définitive en exposant en même temps les motifs de sa décision avant l'expiration du terme susdit de huit jours.

Si quelque Eparque ne fait pas parvenir ponctuellement au Nomarque les listes des communes de la province, celui-ci fait partir sur le champ un envoyé au Sous-Préfet pour hâter l'envoi des listes. Le Sous-Préfet sera tenu de payer aux envoyés de cinq à dix drachmes par jour, ainsi que les frais de leur voyage.

Art. 6. Le choix, par sort, des membres de la Commission, d'après l'Article 18 de la Loi du $\frac{18}{30}$ Mars, 1844, a lieu dans le Tribunal de Première Instance siégeant publiquement sous la direction du Président même, dans le premier jour d'audience après l'envoi des listes au Président.

Art. 7. Outre la Commission de Surveillance, le vote est surveillé aussi par une autre Commission composée de quatre membres. Si les partis opposés dans l'élection sont deux, ces membres seront établis en nombre égal par les partis adverses: si les partis en opposition les uns aux autres dépassent le nombre de deux, alors la Commission sera formée d'un des représentants de chacun des partis en lutte, lequel sera nommé à cet effet par les partis eux-mêmes; cependant le nombre des membres de cette Commission ne doit point dépasser celui de cinq.

Art. 8. L'urne sera faite par les soins du Sous-Préfet et aux frais de la même commune, avec des planches sans nœuds ni trous, bien jointes les unes aux autres. L'urne peut être faite aussi de fer blanc bien épais; les parties en seront jointes soigneusement sans laisser la moindre fente ou le moindre trou.

Art. 9. L'urne aux suffrages sera exposée sur une table dans un endroit fixé. La Commission de Surveillance, ainsi que les membres de celle constituée d'après l'Article 7, ne siégeront pas trop près de l'urne, mais à une certaine distance.

Art. 10. Chaque votant en entrant dans le lieu des suffrages s'adresse au Président de la Commission de Surveillance et lui présente son suffrage (vote); le Président après l'avoir examiné soigneusement par le moyen du toucher seulement pour s'assurer qu'il n'est pas double, sans l'ouvrir ni regarder à travers l'enveloppe ou le papier les noms qui y sont écrits, y appose son chiffre et le remet au votant, qui s'approchant de l'urne placée sur le milieu de la table laisse glisser son suffrage par l'ouverture laissée exprès.

Art. 11. Si l'on exprime des doutes sur l'identité et les qualités du votant qui se présente, celui-ci est tenu de prouver son identité et ses qualités au moyen de deux témoins; alors il sera admis à voter.

Ceux qui par hasard ne seraient pas compris dans la liste définitive peuvent être admis à voter, si les deux témoins présentés par eux affirment qu'ils ont les qualités

requis par la Loi du $\frac{1}{30}$ Mars, 1844, sans être sujets aux cas d'incapacité prévus par la même Loi.

Les témoins qui dans le cas énoncé dans les deux paragraphes ci-dessus auraient déposé ou affirmés des mensonges pour des vérités seront poursuivis et punis d'après l'Article 270 du Code Pénal.

Art. 12. Les Commissions établies par les partis adverses, d'après l'Article 7 ci-dessus rapporté, doivent faire connaître (à l'autorité compétente) toutes les objections ou observations qu'elles pourraient avoir et les faire inscrire dans le Protocole des votes d'après l'Article 20 de la Loi du $\frac{1}{30}$ Mars, 1844, apposer à la fin de chaque séance leurs sceaux sur l'urne ainsi que sur les procès-verbaux si elles veulent, avec une courte description de leur devise, et d'examiner les sceaux de l'urne au moment de chaque ouverture.

Art. 13. L'urne ne sort point du lieu des séances pendant tout le temps de la durée des votes, ni même se déplace de la table où elle a été dès le principe placée.

A la fin de chaque séance du jour, les procès-verbaux seront placés par le Secrétaire sur la table où se trouve l'urne : tous les assistants se retirent en même temps du lieu, dont les portes se ferment soigneusement, et le lieu de la séance est gardé par la Commission de Surveillance, ainsi que par celle établie d'après l'Article 7 du présent Décret; par la Garde Nationale et par la force publique ; mais dans les endroits où la Garde Nationale n'est pas encore établie et qu'il n'y a point de force publique, chacun des partis adverses placera un nombre égal de personnes armées qui doit remplacer la garde.

Art. 14. Les procès-verbaux des séances seront rédigés dans un cahier, consu, numéroté et paraphé par l'Eparque, et contenant des colonnes distinctes—1. Du numéro d'ordre ; 2. Des noms et prénoms des votants ; 3. Le numéro de la liste définitive sous lequel l'électeur est inscrit, ou les signatures des deux témoins qui avaient affirmés que la personne omise, ou celle dont on avait disputé l'identité, avait les qualités requises d'électeurs.

Art. 15. Pour être élu Plénipotentiaire d'une Province ou d'une Colonie on requiert—

1. Qu'on soit citoyen Grec établi en Grèce.

2. Qu'on ait l'âge de vingt-cinq ans accomplis.

3. Qu'on ne soit pas sujet aux incapacités prévues par le § 2 de l'Article 5 de la Loi du $\frac{1}{30}$ Mars, 1844.

Art. 16. Les crimes et délits commis pendant les élections seront poursuivis de droit et indépendamment de la qualité de l'auteur et de la sanction de son éléction.

Art. 17. Le vote continue pendant quatre jours, dont l'un doit être une Dimanche.

Dans les communes de première classe le vote se divise en sections électorales d'après les institutions qui seront réglées par un Décret Spécial.

Art. 18. Les élections commenceront le même jour sur tous les points de l'Etat.

Art. 19. Les Professeurs de l'Université élisent un Plénipotentiaire soit entre eux, soit hors d'eux d'après les dispositions de la loi.

Art. 20. Il est défendu à toute personne de s'approcher du lieu des élections, soit armée, soit avec des instruments propres à attaquer. Les auteurs et co-opérateurs de la violation de cette disposition seront punis par un emprisonnement de six mois au moins, et seront privés pendant trois ans de leurs droits civils.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire,

(Signé)

D. G. BOULGARIS, *Président.*

C. CANARIS.

Les Ministres de l'Etat,

(Signé)

T. MANGHINAS.

TH. A. ZAIMIS.

A. COUMOUNDOUROS.

B. NICOLOPOULOS.

A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

D. CALIFRONAS.

D. MAVROMICHALIS.

Le Secrétaire-Général,

N. A. CHATZOPOULOS.

(Translation.

KINGDOM OF GREECE.

The Provisional Government.

BY the advice of the Ministerial Council of State, and at the proposal of the Minister of the Interior, we decree :—

Article 1. The dispositions of the Law of March $\frac{18}{30}$, 1844, concerning the election of Deputies, are to be in force also for the election of Plenipotentiaries, in so far as they are not modified by the following dispositions.

Art. 2. The number of Plenipotentiaries to be elected in each province for the National Assembly, recently constituted, will be double that of the Deputies according the § 2, Article 1, of the Law of March $\frac{18}{30}$, 1844.

Art. 3. One Plenipotentiary to be elected in each of the Colonies established at Adamantes, at Minoa, and at New Pella, according to the dispositions of the Law.

Art. 4. Greek subjects numbering from one hundred to a thousand souls, in any foreign country whatever, are to have the right to elect one Plenipotentiary; and communities numbering from one thousand to ten thousand are to elect two Plenipotentiaries, and three if they exceed the number of ten thousand.

The election of Plenipotentiaries of Greek subjects residing abroad shall take place in the Consulate, according to the Decree, to be published on this subject.

Art 5. The Sub-Prefects, in the course of five days from the reception of the present Decree, will prepare and send to the Prefect of the Province a correct and complete list of all those who claim to have, in their respective communes, the qualifications indicated in Article 18 of the Law of March $\frac{18}{30}$, 1844. The Nomarchs, as soon as they have collected all the lists of the communes in their districts, which should be done in the course of eight days from the expiration of the delay of five days above-mentioned, will transmit them in the shape of a tabular summary to the President of the Tribunal of First Instance of the District.

If, before the transmission of these lists to the President of the Tribunal, complaints should be made to the Nomarch, either of the omission of the names of persons who ought to be borne upon the lists as possessing the necessary qualifications, or that the names of persons not duly qualified, or who have forfeited their qualifications, have been inscribed thereon, the Nomarch will immediately inquire into the matter and decide it summarily, giving at the same time the reasons for his decision, before the expiration of the above-mentioned term of eight days.

If any Eparch should fail in sending to the Nomarch the lists of the communes of the province, the latter is to send at once a messenger to the Sub-Prefect to hasten the transmission of the lists. The Sub-Prefect shall be held bound to pay to such messenger from 5 to 10 drachmas each day, as well as the expenses of their journey.

Art. 6. The choice, by lot, of the members of the Commission, according to the 18th Article of the Law of March $\frac{18}{30}$, 1844, is to take place in the Court of First Instance, holding its sittings in public under the superintendence of the President himself, on the first day of its meeting after the transmission of the lists to the President.

Art. 7. In addition to the Commission of Supervision, the vote is to be supervised also by another Commission composed of four members. If there are two parties opposed at the election, the members of the Commission are to be named in equal numbers by the adverse parties; if the parties in opposition exceed two in number, then the Commission is to be formed of one of the representatives of each of the parties in opposition who will be named by the parties themselves: nevertheless, the number of members of this Commission is to be limited to five.

Art. 8. The urn is to be made under the inspection of the Sub-Prefect, and at the expense of the commune, of boards without knots or holes in them, and well joined. The urn may also be made of tin of a good and sufficient thickness; the different parts of it to be joined carefully, without leaving the smallest chink or hole.

Art. 9. The voting-urn is to be exhibited upon a table in spot fixed upon. The Commission of Supervision, as well as the members of the Commission constituted in accordance with Article 7, are not to sit too near to the urn, but at a certain distance from it.

Art. 10. Each voter on entering the voting place is to advance to the President of the Commission of Supervision and to present to him his vote. The President, after closely examining it by touch alone, to ascertain that it is not double, without opening it or looking through the envelope or paper for the names inscribed upon it, is to place his cypher upon it and return it to the voter, who is to approach the urn placed in the middle of the table and let drop his vote through the opening left for that purpose.

Art. 11. If doubts are expressed as to the identity and qualifications of the voter, he is bound to prove the same by means of two witnesses: he will then be permitted to vote.

Those who by chance are not included in the final list of qualified voters will still be permitted to vote, if the two witnesses brought by them state that the voters possess the qualification required by the Law of March $\frac{18}{30}$, 1844, without being subject to be considered disfranchised, as determined in such cases by the same Law.

Witnesses who, in the cases recited in the two preceding paragraphs, should have deposed to or stated untruths for truths will be prosecuted and punished in accordance with Article 270 of the Penal Code.

Art. 12. The Commissions formed by opposing parties, according to Article 7 above mentioned, are to inform the proper authorities of all the objections or observations which they may have to make, and are to cause them to be inscribed in the Protocol of the votes according to Article 20 of the Law of March $\frac{18}{30}$, 1844. They are to place at the termination of each sitting their seals upon the urn, and also upon the depositions if they should desire so to do, to give a short description of the cypher on the seal they make use of, and to examine the seals of the urn when it is opened.

Art. 13. The urn is not to be moved from the place where the Commission is held, while the votes are being received; nor is it even to be moved from the table where it is to be placed from the first.

At the end of each daily sitting the depositions are to be placed by the Secretary upon the table whereon the urn stands; all the members are to retire at the same time, the doors are to be carefully closed, and the place is to be guarded by the Commission of Supervision, and also by the Commission constituted according to Article 7 of the present Decree, by means of the national guard and by the public troops. In places where the national guard is not yet established, and where there are no public troops, each of the opposing parties is to place as a guard an equal number of armed persons.

Art. 14. The depositions made at the sittings of the Commission are to be drawn up on paper, which is to be sewn together, numbered and arranged in paragraphs by the Eparch. The book is to contain in distinct columns:—1. The number in order of succession; 2. The name and christian names of the voter; 3. The number under which the elector is inscribed in the final list, or the signatures of the two witnesses who have deposed that the person omitted, or whose identity was questioned, possessed the necessary qualifications.

Art. 15. To be elected Plenipotentiary for a province, or colony, it is required—

1. That the candidate should be a Greek citizen, established in Greece.

2. That he should be fully 25 years of age.

3. That he should be free from the disabilities provided for by § 2 of Article 5 of the Law of March $\frac{18}{30}$, 1844.

Art. 16. All crimes and misdemeanours committed during the elections are to be prosecuted according to law, and independently of the quality of the person who commits them, and of the sanction of his election.

Art. 17. The voting is to last four days, of which one is to be Sunday.

In the communes of the first class, the voting is to be divided into electoral sections, according to regulations to be hereafter made by special decree.

Art. 18. The elections are to commence everywhere on the same day.

The Professors at the Universities are to elect one Plenipotentiary, either from among their own body or not, according as the law directs.

Art. 20. It is forbidden to every one to come near the place of election either armed or provided with any weapon of attack. All persons committing or abetting any such violence are to be punished by imprisonment for a term not less than six months, and to be deprived for three years of their civic rights.

The Provisional Government,
(Signed) D. G. BOULGARIS, *President*.
C. CANARIS.

The Ministers of State,
(Signed) T. MANGHINAS.
TH. A. ZAIMIS.
A. COUMOUNDOUROS.
B. NICOLOPOULOS.
A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.
D. CALIFRONAS.
D. MAVROMICHALIS.

The Secretary-General,
N. A. CHATZOPOULOS.

No. 43.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 17.)

My Lord,

Athens, November 7, 1862.

HER Majesty's ship "Marlborough," bearing the flag of Admiral Sir William Martin, left the Piræus this morning for Malta.

As the state of this country is more tranquil, I did not think it desirable to request the Admiral to remain longer at the Piræus, where there are enough vessels of war already for the protection of British interests and property.

I inclose herewith the copy of a despatch I received from Sir William before his departure, respecting the distribution of ships in these waters.

My Austrian colleague informed me to-day, that two Austrian frigates and two corvettes would soon arrive at the Piræus.

A Russian frigate is also expected, and the Italian frigate "Victor Emmanuel" has been in the harbour for several days.

It is reported that the French fleet is coming also, but of this I am not so sure.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

Inclosure in No. 43.

Vice-Admiral Sir W. Martin to Mr. Scarlett.

Sir,

"Marlborough," at the Piræus, November 6, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that having received my despatches to-day from England, I purpose leaving in my flag-ship to-morrow morning for Malta.

Her Majesty's ships "Queen," "Pelican," and "Foxhound" will remain at the Piræus under the orders of Captain Charles F. Hillyar; the "Gannet" will remain at Syra as long as it may be desirable; the "Shannon" is stationed at Patras, and the "Icarus" at Santa Maura, visiting Missolonghi occasionally.

If it should be found that a further reinforcement is necessary, another ship shall be sent to the Piræus on my arrival at Malta.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. F. MARTIN.

No. 44.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 17.)

My Lord,

Athens, November 8, 1862.

I OMITTED in my despatch of the 7th instant, with reference to the Decree for the election of a National Assembly, to state to your Lordship the order in which the duties devolving on that constituent body are to be performed.

In the first place, the acts of the Provisional Government are to be confirmed by the vote of that body; after that it is intended that the Assembly should occupy itself in the formation of a new Constitution, or rather in the modification of the one now in existence in Greece; and, finally, the Throne will be offered to a Prince ready and willing to subscribe to the conditions of the Constitution, whatever those conditions may be.

It is for this reason alone that the election of a Sovereign is not to precede the establishment of the Constitution under which he is to reign.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

No. 45.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received November 17.)

(Extract.)

St. Petersburg, November 8, 1862.

PRINCE GORTCHAKOFF showed me a letter from your Lordship to Baron Brunnow this afternoon, in which your Lordship expresses your full concurrence in the

opinion of the Russian Government to the effect that the engagements subsist by which members of the reigning families of the three Contracting Powers are excluded from the Throne of Greece.

Your Lordship adds that this stipulation includes His Royal Highness Prince Alfred on one side, and the Duke of Leuchtenberg on the other; that a Bavarian Prince would be most convenient, but that no constraint should be exerted on the Greek people.

No. 46.

*Earl Russell to Lord Napier.**

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 17, 1862.

I HAVE informed your Excellency by telegraph that Her Majesty's Government consider it of importance that the view which the three Protecting Powers take of the obligations of the Protocols, to which they are parties, touching the election to the Throne of Greece of any Prince selected from among the Princes forming part of the families reigning in the States which signed the Treaty of 1827, should be made known at Athens without delay through their respective Ministers in Greece.

I have informed your Excellency that, so far as Great Britain is concerned, and provided the other parties to the Treaty agree to make a similar declaration, Her Majesty's Government are prepared to instruct Her Majesty's Minister at Athens to declare that Great Britain will not consent, any more than the other two Protecting Powers, to the Throne of Greece being accepted by such a Prince.

Your Excellency will, probably, before you receive this despatch, have ascertained whether the Court of Russia agree with Her Majesty's Government in this matter, but if you should not have done so, you will press the Russian Minister for an early decision.

I am, &c.

(Signed) **RUSSELL.**

P.S.—Such a declaration would of course apply to His Imperial Highness the Duke of Leuchtenberg, Prince Romanoffsky, as well as to His Royal Highness Prince Alfred.

No. 47.

Lord Bloomfield to Earl Russell.—(Received November 17.)

(Extract.)

Vienna, November 13, 1862.

I AVAILED myself of the first opportunity which offered, after the arrival of the last messenger, to read to Count Rechberg your Lordship's despatch† containing the substance of the verbal communications which had passed between your Lordship and the Representatives of Greece, Bavaria, France, and Russia, on the last occurrences in Greece. His Excellency expressed his thankfulness for the information thus imparted, and seemed pleased with the attitude assumed by Her Majesty's Government under present circumstances, and especially with the respect shown to the various Conventions and Protocols connected with the Greek Kingdom.

No. 48.

Earl Russell to Earl Cowley.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, November 17, 1862.

I SEND you copy of a despatch I have addressed to Lord Napier relating to the Greek succession.‡

* A similar despatch was addressed to Earl Cowley.

† See No. 6.

‡ No. 40.

No. 49.

Earl Russell to Earl Cowley.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 19, 1862.

I HAVE to state to your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government entirely concur in the view taken by M. Drouyn de Lhuys, as reported in your Excellency's despatch of the 7th instant, in regard to the rumoured intention of the Greek Provinces of Turkey to send Deputies to the National Assembly about to be convoked in Greece.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 50.

Earl Cowley to Earl Russell.—(Received November 21.)

My Lord,

Paris, November 20, 1862.

THE Turkish Ambassador seems perfectly satisfied with the assurances which he has received from M. Drouyn de Lhuys of his desire to prevent the present crisis in Greece from becoming in any way prejudicial to the Turkish Empire, and indeed with the friendly tone of the French Minister towards the Sultan and his Government in general.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys told Djemil Pasha that his object would be to act in concert with Her Majesty's Government in all questions connected with the East, a declaration which I need hardly add has given no small pleasure to the Turkish Representative.

I have, &c.

(Signed) COWLEY.

No. 51.

Earl Cowley to Earl Russell.—(Received November 21.)

(Extract.)

Paris, November 20, 1862.

ON the receipt on the 18th instant of your Lordship's despatch of the preceding day,* relating to the succession to the throne of Greece, I at once sought an interview with M. Drouyn de Lhuys.

I stated to his Excellency, in the words of your Lordship's despatch, that Her Majesty's Government consider it of importance that the view which the three Protecting Powers take of the obligations of the Protocols to which they are parties touching the election to the throne of Greece of any Prince selected from among the Princes forming part of the families reigning in the States which signed the Treaty of 1827, should be made known at Athens without delay, through their respective Ministers of Greece, and that Her Majesty's Government are prepared, provided the other parties to the Treaty agree to make a similar declaration, to instruct Her Majesty's Minister at Athens to declare that Great Britain will not consent any more than the other two Protecting Powers to the throne of Greece being assumed by such a Prince.

Before inviting M. Drouyn de Lhuys to give an answer to your Lordship's proposal, I thought that it would be very advantageous that his Excellency should read the lucid exposition of the whole question, on which I was about to ask his opinion, as set forth in your Lordship's despatch of the 15th instant to Lord Napier, and I hope that I shall have acted in the spirit of your Lordship's intentions in giving M. Drouyn this despatch to read.

His Excellency, after perusing it, said that your Lordship's proposal, as he understood it, was frank, clear, and honest. He understood your Lordship to propose that the engagements contracted in 1826, 1827, and 1830, by the Sovereigns of Great Britain, France, and Russia, not to exercise any exclusive influence in Greece, nor to consent to the election of any Prince from their respective families to fill the throne of Greece, should be brought to the recollection of the Greek Provisional Government by the Representatives of the three Powers accredited at Athens, with an intimation that the said Powers considered that engagement to be still in force, and that they could not recognize as Sovereign of Greece any Prince excluded by the above conditions.

I replied that such I conceived to be the exact purport of your Lordship's proposal.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys proceeded to say that he understood your Lordship to argue

further that the condition which it appeared the Russian Government was desirous of putting forward as a *sine quâ non* to the election of any new Sovereign to the throne of Greece, namely, that the Sovereign elected must profess the Greek religion, was not a matter with which the Protecting Powers had to deal, but must be left to the deliberation and decision of the Greek nation.

I again replied in the affirmative.

His Excellency then asked me whether I had any objection to leave with him the despatches which I had just read to him, in order that he might communicate them to the Emperor. He was going as yesterday to Compiègne, and would take the earliest opportunity of conversing with His Majesty upon the important subject to which they related.

Conceiving that your Lordship would have no objection, I left the despatches with M. Drouyn de Lhuys. A day or two will probably elapse before I hear further from him.

No. 52.

Earl Russell to Lord Napier.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 21, 1862.

YOUR Excellency's telegram of the 19th instant announces the refusal of the Russian Government to join in the declaration which Her Majesty's Government proposed should be made at Athens by the three Powers in regard to the continued validity of their mutual engagements under Protocol and Treaty opposed to the selection of any Prince of their respective families for the Throne of Greece.

Such being the case, it is unnecessary for your Excellency to say anything more to Prince Gortchakoff on the subject of the Greek succession; but if he should speak to you on the matter, you will, without offering any opinion, merely engage to repeat his observations to Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 53.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received November 22.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, November 14, 1862.

I WAITED on Prince Gortchakoff this forenoon, and placed in his Excellency's hands your Lordship's despatch to Mr. Scarlett of the 6th of November, containing an exposition of the sentiments of Her Majesty's Government in regard to the course of events in Greece.

The Vice-Chancellor having already learned something of the tenour of your Lordship's communication from Baron Brunnow, accepted it with satisfaction, and proceeded to read it aloud.

At the third paragraph, which refers to the advice and warnings heretofore tendered by Her Majesty's Government to the Government of King Otho, his Excellency stopped and remarked that similar admonitions had been offered by the Imperial Cabinet.

The sixth paragraph embodies an assertion of the rights of an independent State to change its governing Dynasty on good and sufficient cause; and the seventh affirms that the Greeks have had good and sufficient cause for the steps which they have taken. To the former, as a matter of principle, Prince Gortchakoff seemed to demur by a slight deprecatory remark. He passed by the latter without comment.

In the tenth paragraph, the Prince stopped at the expression, "no person connected with the Royal and Imperial families," and said that the words "connected with" were not in the original Treaty. They were too wide. "'Connected with,'" said his Excellency, "would exclude all the Princes in Europe, who are all connected; at this rate the Greeks would never get a King. You would drive them into a Republic ('vous les jetez dans la République'). The words of the Treaty were of a more distinct and limited character."

The Vice-Chancellor, in terminating the despatch, observed that he was gratified by seeing that Her Majesty's Government had recognized the merit of the Revolutionary authorities in adhering to the Monarchical Constitution, and had encouraged them in that course. His Excellency then added that he was reluctant to enter upon a statement of

his views on this subject at the present moment, for he had not had the honour of seeing the Emperor for several days. He was going to Tsarskoe Seloe on the following day, and would be better enabled to communicate to me the opinions of the Imperial Cabinet on a future occasion.

I remarked to the Prince that he was now in possession of an ample and authentic expression of the views of Her Majesty's Government on this question. In speaking to him previously on the subject, and especially in alluding to the possible contingency of a Prince of the Bavarian family presenting himself as a candidate for the Throne in all the conditions of the existing Treaties and stipulations, I had spoken with no instructions or authority, my only object had been to elicit his views, and communicate them to your Lordship.

Prince Gortchakoff replied in terms not unfavourable to the Bavarian family, to whom he said he would not be wanting in respect, but reserved his opinion regarding them and the whole matter until he had been made acquainted with the will of his Sovereign.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NAPIER.

No. 54.

Earl Cowley to Earl Russell.—(Received November 22.)

(Extract.)

Paris, November 21, 1862.

I RECEIVED late yesterday evening a letter from M. Drouyn de Lhuys, covering a *note verbale* containing the answer of the Emperor to the proposal made by Her Majesty's Government in your Lordship's despatch of the 17th instant, with reference to the succession to the vacant throne of Greece.

Copies of these papers are inclosed herewith.

Inclosure 1 in No. 54.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys to Earl Cowley.

Mon cher Ambassadeur,

Compiègne, le 20 Novembre, 1862.

JE vous envoie à la hâte, après avoir pris les ordres de l'Empereur, ma réponse à votre communication du 18, sous la forme d'une note verbale, analogue à celle que vous avez employée.

Tout à vous, &c.
(Signé) DROUYN DE LHUYS.

(Translation.)

My dear Ambassador,

Compiègne, November 20, 1862.

I SEND you in haste, having taken the Emperor's orders, my answer to your communication of the 18th in the form of a verbal note, corresponding to that which you have used.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) DROUYN DE LHUYS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 54.

Note Verbale.

SON Excellence le Comte Cowley a lu au Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de France, le 18 de ce mois, deux dépêches de Lord Russell, adressés sous la date du 15 et 17, l'une à Lord Napier, Ambassadeur d'Angleterre à St. Pétersbourg, l'autre à l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Britannique à Paris.

Il résulte de cette communication que Lord Russell propose aux Cabinets de Paris et de St. Pétersbourg de déclarer à Athènes que les trois Cours Protectrices considèrent comme étant toujours valables les engagements stipulés dans le Protocole du 3 Février, 1830, et que si un Prince appartenant à l'une de ces trois Familles Souveraines était appelé au Trône par le vote des Grecs, ce Prince ne serait pas reconnu par elles.

Le Gouvernement de l'Empereur est prêt à faire connaître à Athènes les déclarations qu'il a échangées sur ce sujet avec les Cabinets d'Angleterre et de Russie, et à se considérer comme lié par ces engagements antérieurs. Mais il ne se croirait pas autorisé à refuser indéfiniment sa reconnaissance à un Prince que la nation Hellénique, sans tenir compte de ces déclarations, aurait élu par un suffrage libre.

Aujourd'hui le cas n'est pas le même qu'en 1830. En 1830 les trois Cours agissaient en vertu d'une délégation expresse de la Grèce en nommant un Roi. Elles ont pu alors mettre à leur choix certaines restrictions et exclure ainsi formellement certaines candidatures. Aujourd'hui, au contraire, la Grèce exerce directement son droit, et ce serait le méconnaître que de lui imposer telle ou telle exclusion sous la clause comminatoire d'un déni absolu de reconnaissance.

Dans le cas où les autres Cours Protectrices, ne s'accordant pas à maintenir comme valables les engagements consignés dans le Protocole du 3 Février, 1830, viendraient à présenter ou appuyer la candidature de Princes appartenant à l'une des trois Familles, la France se considérerait comme dégagée aussi et reprendrait sa liberté d'action.

Désireuse d'ailleurs de prévenir de fâcheuses complications, Sa Majesté Impériale serait disposée à s'entendre immédiatement avec les trois Cours Protectrices pour rechercher un Prince dont l'élection assurerait la prospérité de la Grèce sans compromettre la sécurité des Etats voisins, et pour le désigner officieusement au suffrage des Hellènes, répondant ainsi à un vœu indiqué déjà par le Gouvernement Provisoire et qui pourrait être exprimé d'une manière plus formelle.

Palais de Compiègne, le 20 Novembre, 1862.

(Translation.)

HIS Excellency Earl Cowley read at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France, on the 18th of this month, two despatches of Lord Russell addressed under date of the 17th, the one to Lord Napier, Ambassador from England at St. Petersburg, the other to Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador at Paris.

It appears from the communications made, as above, that Lord Russell proposes to the Cabinets of Paris and St. Petersburg to declare at Athens that the three protecting Courts consider the engagements stipulated in the Protocol of February 3, 1830, to be in force at all times, and that if a Prince who belongs to one of these three Sovereign Families were called to the Throne by the vote of the Greeks, this Prince would not be recognized by them.

The Emperor's Government is prepared to make known at Athens the declarations exchanged by them in this matter with the Cabinets of England and Russia, and to consider itself as bound by its former engagements. But they would not think themselves authorised to refuse indefinitely their recognition of a Prince whom the Hellenic nation, without taking account of these declarations, should elect by free suffrage.

To-day the case is not the same as that in 1830. In 1830 the three Courts acted in virtue of an express delegation of power by Greece in naming a King. At that time they were able to place certain restrictions upon their choice, as to the candidateship. To-day, on the contrary, Greece exercises her right directly, and we should ignore it by imposing upon her some or other exclusions under the comminatory clause of an absolute denial of recognition.

In case that the other protecting Courts, not agreeing to maintain as in force the engagements recorded in the Protocol of February 3, 1830, should wish to introduce or to support the candidateship of Princes belonging to one of the three families, France would also consider herself free from the engagement and would resume liberty of action.

Desirous, moreover, to anticipate vexatious complications, His Imperial Majesty would be disposed immediately to come to an understanding with the three protecting Courts, in order to meet with a Prince whose election should guarantee the prosperity of Greece, without compromising the security of the neighbouring States, and in order to recommend him officiously to the suffrages of the Hellenes, replying in that manner to a wish already intimated by the Provisional Government, and which might be expressed in a more formal way.

Palace of Compiègne, November 20, 1862.

No. 55.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received November 22.)

Sir,

Admiralty, November 21, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir William Martin, dated the 15th instant, relative to Her Majesty's ships stationed on the coast of Greece for the protection of British interests.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINÉ.

Inclosure in No. 55.

Vice-Admiral Sir W. Martin to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

My Lord,

"Marlborough," at Malta, November 15, 1862.

IN reply to your letter of the 7th instant, with its inclosure, stating that Earl Russell is of opinion that during the present state of affairs in Greece some men-of-war should be kept on that coast to protect British persons and property, I request you will be pleased to inform the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the following ships are stationed there:—

2. The "Queen," "Pelican," and "Foxhound" at the Piræus, the "Gannet" at Syra, the "Shannon" at Patras, and the "Icarus" at Santa Maura.

3. The "Gannet" will leave Syra very shortly for Malta and England, and will, if necessary, be replaced by the "Pelican." The "Shannon" will leave Patras in a fortnight for Missolonghi and Corfu. Although the latest reports from Greece continue to be highly satisfactory, the other ships above-named will remain on the coast for the protection of British interests.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. F. MARTIN.

No. 56.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received November 22.)

Sir,

Admiralty, November 21, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of the orders, dated the 6th instant, issued by Vice-Admiral Sir William Martin for the guidance of the senior officer of Her Majesty's ships in the Piræus.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINÉ.

Inclosure in No. 56.

Orders addressed to Captain Hillyar.

"Marlborough," at the Piræus, November 6, 1862.

By Sir William F. Martin, K.C.B., &c.

ON my departure from the Piræus you will resume the duties of senior officer, and take under your orders the "Pelican" and "Foxhound," employing them as may be requisite for the protection of the lives and property of British subjects.

The "Shannon" is stationed at Patras, and the "Icarus" at Santa Maura, with directions to visit Missolonghi. The "Gannet," under orders for England, has been detained at Syra, at the requisition of Her Majesty's Consul. I have authorized Commander the Honourable M. H. Nelson's remaining there as long as may be necessary or until relieved by a ship from the Piræus.

I hope the continuance of tranquillity at Athens may enable you (with the concurrence of Her Majesty's Minister) to detach a vessel shortly to Syra, to take the place of the

"Gannet," if one should be still required there, and with directions for the vessel sent by you to return hither when no longer wanted at Syra. The "Gannet" when relieved will repair to Malta.

It is to be understood that your duty at this port is to be limited to the protection of the lives and property of British subjects, and to affording protection to any refugees whom you may be informed by Her Majesty's Minister would be in danger of their lives without such protection.

Strict neutrality is to be observed with regard to the revolution, but the colours adopted by the Provisional Government cannot be officially recognized by you, without direct authority to that effect.

(Signed) W. F. MARTIN.
Charles Farrel Hillyar, Esq., Captain H.M.S. "Queen."

By command of the Commander-in-Chief.
(Signed) GEO. P. MARTIN, *Secretary*.

No. 57.

Earl Russell to Earl Cowley.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 24, 1862.

IT appears from your Excellency's telegram of the 21st instant, that the Emperor of the French would not refuse to acknowledge ultimately any Prince who might be spontaneously chosen for their Sovereign by the Greek nation, notwithstanding a declaration made at Athens by the three Powers that they consider the renunciation as to the selection of any Prince of their respective families for the Throne of Greece, contained in the Protocols and Treaty, as still binding upon them.

As, however, the Russian Government have declined to join in such a declaration, Her Majesty's Government consider that there can be no advantage in further insisting upon their original proposal on this subject.

Her Majesty's Government observe with satisfaction that the Emperor of the French is ready to consult with England and Russia as to the Prince whom they might unofficially suggest to the Greek nation to be selected for their Sovereign.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 58.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 24.)

(Extract.)

Athens, November 11, 1862.

ON the night of the 6th instant great alarm prevailed at Patras, on account of the insubordination of the troops in that city.

It appears that the troops believed that a large sum of money was withheld from them by their officers, and that they had a right to double pay.

As it was feared they would attack and plunder the Greek bank, treasury, and merchants' houses, the Nomarch sent to Missolonghi for the Greek corvette.

The Austrian Consul and his family took refuge for the night in the house of the British Vice-Consul, and the wife of the French Consul went to the Russian Consul's house, who had a guard of armed citizens to defend it.

Signals were arranged with Captain Jones, of Her Majesty's ship "Shannon," and preparations made to land troops to protect Her Majesty's Consul, if necessary.

Captain Jones did not intend to give protection to the Ionian bank, as he thought it too far from the ship.

The precautions taken appear to have sufficed; and the following day it is supposed that the Provisional Government acceded to the demand of the troops, in order to pacify them. The soldiers and commissioned officers throughout Greece are now entirely demoralized, and pay little attention to the commands of their superiors: but they appear to be better behaved at Athens than in other places.

I have frequently urged upon the Provisional Government my advice to have these men separated as much as possible, to prevent them combining together so easily against the existing authorities.

I have since heard that a telegram has been received to-day, stating that order has been re-established.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 24.)

My Lord,

Athens, November 14, 1862.

THE Bavarian Minister, Comte de Hompesch, called upon me to-day, to know if I had had any advice from your Lordship respecting the succession of the Bavarian line to the throne of Greece.

I said in reply, that I did not believe Her Majesty's Government would give any advice on that subject; that the policy of non-intervention would be the governing principle of action of Great Britain at this juncture with regard to the internal affairs of Greece; that the general feeling of the country about the choice of another Sovereign would be respected, provided any Sovereign was chosen not inadmissible under Treaty engagements.

Count Hompesch afterwards said, that although the feeling appeared now general in favour of Prince Alfred, if His Royal Highness could not accept the throne, and other candidates were brought into the field, a strong reactionary party would still be ready to support the succession of the Bavarian line, which did not at this moment venture to show itself.

I replied, that at this moment I saw no evidence of any reactionary sentiments in favour of the Bavarian family, and I repeated my belief to Comte Hompesch, that a policy of non-intervention would certainly be the guide in future, as it is now, with respect to the affairs of this country.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

No. 60.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 24.)

(Extract.)

Athens, November 14, 1862.

UPON the receipt of your Lordship's telegram dated November 3rd, which reached me on the 10th instant, reminding me that by the Treaty of July 6, 1829, and Protocols of April 1827, and February 1830, both Prince Alfred and the Duke of Leuchtenberg would be equally excluded from becoming candidates for the throne of Greece, I lost no time in communicating to M. Diamantopoulos the necessary information on that subject; and previous to the arrival of this telegram the language I have always held to my colleagues and to others has ever been grounded on the supposition that sooner or later I should be so instructed by your Lordship.

I had the honour to receive this morning by messenger your Lordship's despatch of the 6th instant,* comprising the opinion of Her Majesty's Government as to the exclusion of the candidates above mentioned. In the course of the day M. Diamantopoulos called upon me, and as he understands and reads English well, I placed the despatch in his hands for his perusal.

After reading it he evinced much pleasure at the expressions of sympathy it contained for the Greeks as a nation, adding that M. Tricoupi, Greek Chargé d'Affaires in London, had received in a conversation he held with Lord Palmerston an equally agreeable impression of the favourable sentiments of Her Majesty's Government with regard to Greece. He then adverted to the state of public opinion with regard to His Royal Highness Prince Alfred, a preference for whom as a Sovereign had now taken such vast proportions in this country that it would be impossible to prevent its spreading throughout every province, town, and village in Greece.

He then asked me if, when Her Majesty's Government became aware of the unanimity of this feeling, there was any hope of any change being effected in the opinions of the Queen's Government with reference to the question of excluding His Royal Highness Prince Alfred.

I said in reply, that I must refer him to my instructions, and that I really could not perceive at this moment any chance whatever of the acceptance by Prince Alfred of the throne of Greece.

I also added that I thought he was bound to inform not only his colleagues, but the leaders of the Clubs at Athens, who now are much more powerful than the Provisional Government itself, that under Treaty engagements Her Majesty's Government considered both Prince Alfred and the Duke of Leuchtenberg as excluded,

In the course of our conversation M. Diamantopoulos informed me that there was no intention on the part of the Provisional Government to permit the election of deputies to represent any Turkish province, which was the case during the whole Session of the National Assembly of 1843, though afterwards a law was introduced into that Assembly to render it impossible hereafter.

I adverted after this to an observation made by your Lordship in your despatch of the 6th instant,* in explanation of a telegram which I had not been able entirely to decypher, "that the National Assembly ought to be chosen in Greece only."

M. Diamantopoulos replied, that a provision had already been confirmed by the Provisional Government for admitting Greeks, who are subjects of this country, abroad to the right of voting for members of the National Assembly about to be convoked, to which he appeared to attach some importance.

No. 61.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 24.)

My Lord,

Athens, November 14, 1862.

I AM informed on good authority, and I have already stated the fact to your Lordship in my telegram dated the 10th instant, that if the Greek Government could prevail on a Prince of the Royal Blood of England to ascend the Throne of Greece, the 40th Article of the Constitution, making the adoption of the Greek faith obligatory on the successor of King Otho, would be abrogated. This is one of the many proofs ready to be given of the desire to remove every obstacle in order to ensure the occupation of the Throne by a Prince of the Royal Line of England.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

No. 62.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 24.)

My Lord,

Athens, November 14, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship with the successive arrival in the port of the Piræus, of an Italian frigate and gun-boat, of a Turkish corvette, and of a Russian frigate.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

No. 63.

Mr. Erskine to Earl Russell.—(Received November 24.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, November 13, 1862.

THE Porte continues to receive favourable accounts from the Greek frontier; the twelve or fifteen battalions it has in that quarter appear to be amply sufficient to meet any present danger.

Mr. Vice-Consul Suter reports from Volo on the 5th instant that the dismissal of the local Rediffs and those of Anatolia had been suspended; that detachments composed of a half-squadron of Cavalry and two companies of Infantry each, have been stationed along the frontier at Armiro, Pharsala, Domoko, and Pheneri; and that a brig of war is cruising in the Gulf of Volo, and patrolling the coast with her boats.

He adds, that the brigandage in Thessaly is still on the increase, but that the authorities both at Volo and Larissa are taking measures to check this evil.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 64.

Earl Cowley to Earl Russell.—(Received November 24.)

My Lord,

Paris, November 22, 1862.

M. DROUYN DE LHUYS not having alluded in his *note verbale* of the 20th instant, to the observations which, when first submitting to his Excellency the proposal of Her Majesty's Government relative to the Greek succession, I had made to him respecting the pretensions of the Russian Government that the future Sovereign of Greece must profess the Greek religion, I asked his Excellency this afternoon whether he agreed in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government that those pretensions were untenable, and that this was a question with which the Protecting Powers had nothing to do. His Excellency replied that he concurred entirely in that view.

I have, &c.
(Signed) COWLEY.

No. 65.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received November 26.)

(Extract.)

St. Petersburg, November 19, 1862.

IN conformity with your Lordship's telegraphic instructions, I waited on Prince Gortchakoff this morning for the purpose of clearing up the doubts which repose upon the position of the Duke of Leuchtenberg in regard to the vacant throne of Greece, as well as of imparting to his Excellency your Lordship's overture respecting a declaration to be made at Athens, to the effect that no Prince of the families reigning in the countries signatory of the Treaty of 1827 can be permitted to accept the Hellenic Crown.

I began by saying that Her Majesty's Government had experienced great satisfaction in being made acquainted with his Excellency's declaration to the effect that the Government of Russia recognized their obligations under the Treaties respecting Greece, and, especially, the engagement by which Princes of the three Houses chiefly concerned, remained excluded from that throne. In these declarations Her Majesty's Government thoroughly concurred. Nevertheless, at Athens, His Royal Highness Prince Alfred and His Imperial Highness the Duke of Leuchtenberg were much spoken of as Princes likely to be chosen; the meeting of the constituent Assembly was imminent; Her Majesty's Government apprehended that the Greeks might be led into an erroneous course; they might make a choice which would prove irregular, and which would have to be undone hereafter; the provisional uncertain condition of the country would be prolonged. Her Majesty's Government desired to guard against this danger. They accordingly proposed to the other guaranteeing Powers to make, by anticipation, a declaration at Athens to the effect that they cannot permit a Prince selected from their respective reigning Families to become the Sovereign of Greece. I had to ask his Excellency whether he would assent to this proposal; but I had another question to put to him. In order that such a declaration should be distinct and effectual, we must know exactly who was, and who was not excluded from the throne of Greece under the existing Treaties and Protocols, those, namely, of 1826, 1827, and 1830. When his Excellency had originally spoken to me on the subject, I had assumed that the Duke of Leuchtenberg was understood to be excluded by the Imperial Government, I had not alluded to him by name, for I did not desire to originate a question which at that moment might seem ungracious; and his Excellency, on his part, had not touched upon the position of the Duke. Events had, however, since advanced; in the minds of certain persons, doubts existed as to the bearing of the Treaty on His Imperial Highness; the subject was publicly discussed. Her Majesty's Government deemed it necessary to leave no ambiguity on this question. I was directed to ask his Excellency whether, in the opinion of the Russian Government, the Duke of Leuchtenberg was a Prince of the Imperial family, and as such excluded by Treaty from the Hellenic throne.

In replying to these questions the Vice-Chancellor observed that the Russian Government could not accede to the proposal to make the desired declaration by anticipation at Athens. Such a declaration would have the effect of greatly discouraging the Greeks; it would cast them into disorder, and drive them into Republican notions, or to the choice of a native Sovereign who would have no authority in the country. His Excellency would not anticipate events, nor did he think that a peremptory declaration of this sort was consistent with the maxims laid down by your Lordship's despatch to Mr. Scarlett of the 6th instant.* That despatch recognized the principles of popular sovereignty, and opened a wide field of freedom to the Greeks; but now your Lordship proposed to subject

* No. 20.

them to premature restrictions. The course of the Imperial Cabinet would be different. The obligations of Treaties and rights still existing must be respected, and not lightly cast aside. It was first necessary to clear the ground in regard to the Bavarian family. He intended to call upon the Cabinet of Munich to state, first, whether they still claimed their rights under the existing Treaties having reference to Greece; secondly, if they did so, whether they had a Prince ready, in the conditions of the Treaty, professing the Greek faith. In case the Government of Bavaria abandoned their rights, then the question was settled, and the throne was vacant; if they did not abandon their rights, but gave a hesitating or evasive reply on the question of religion, he held that the succession was annulled, and the throne was equally vacant. But if a Bavarian Prince was brought forward, fulfilling all the conditions of existing Treaties, and especially the stipulations regarding religion, then the Russian Government would offer that Prince to the Greek nation, without peremptorily pressing or imposing him.

The Vice-Chancellor at the same time demurred to give me a definitive answer to my question respecting the quality and exclusion of the Duke of Leuchtenberg.

I said to Prince Gortchakoff that the course suggested by his Excellency in reference to Bavaria was certainly one of a regular and legitimate character, consistent with the principles of the Russian Government; but these proceedings would last some time; meanwhile, the Greeks would, perhaps, be proceeding to a precipitate conclusion. The declaration advised by Her Majesty's Government was intended to provide against this contingency. For my part, it was my duty to acquaint his Excellency plainly that in the opinion of my Government the Duke of Leuchtenberg was a Prince Romanoffsky, of the Imperial Family of Russia, and as such was excluded from the Throne of Greece by the stipulations of 1830, and by the spirit of those of 1826 and 1827.

The Vice-Chancellor repeated his objections to the step suggested by your Lordship, and in reply to my second question respecting His Imperial Highness the Duke of Leuchtenberg, his Excellency still declined to give a categorical answer to the inquiries of Her Majesty's Government. The question whether the Duke was a Prince of the Imperial Family in the sense contemplated by the Treaty, and thus excluded from the Throne of Greece, was susceptible of juridical discussion. It was, moreover, a question which might never arise at all. If it did arise, it would then be time enough to bring it under debate. His Excellency added, that I asked him for a spontaneous decision of the Emperor on a matter not raised by anything that had occurred, a voluntary concession, or expression of opinion on a subject concerning interests of an intimate nature. He could give no premature and uncalled-for explanation in such a case.

I observed to the Prince that the matter was raised, for Her Majesty's Government had raised it, and attached great importance to it; and that I invoked no spontaneous declaration on the part of His Imperial Majesty on a matter of intimate concern to his family. I merely asked him, the Vice-Chancellor, for the official construction placed upon certain Treaties by the Russian Government.

Prince Gortchakoff said that he could give me no other answer than that which he had already delivered; but he desired it to be distinctly understood that the Imperial Government had no designs whatever, in favour of the Duke of Leuchtenberg: they had no secret policy in the matter, no word had been addressed to Count Bloudoff empowering him to exert any influence on behalf of the Duke, or any other candidate; his attitude was strictly one of observation and expectancy. The course followed by Her Majesty's Government was not so consistent with our common declarations. Mr. Scarlett had been directed to communicate your Lordship's despatch of the 6th instant to the person charged at Athens with the functions of Minister of Foreign Affairs. This was an act of an official character.

By the private telegrams of this morning it was reported that the English Admiral had saluted the revolutionary flag at the Piræus. Something of the same kind had occurred at Patras. This was very like official recognition. There had been fraternizations at Zante and elsewhere between English officers and the people. Such proceedings were not compatible with impartiality and non-recognition.

In replying to the Vice-Chancellor, I contended that Mr. Scarlett might have imparted his despatch in an unofficial manner; that the salutes might not turn out to be true, or they might have been offered to Her Majesty's Minister, or some other English functionary, and have been misinterpreted; that the notion of an English officer fraternizing with the Greek populace was too "bizarre" to deserve serious credit; and, besides, that whatever happened in the Ionian Islands happened within our own boundaries. Nevertheless, as anything which resembled official recognition of the Provisional Government would be repugnant to the declared views of Her Majesty's Government, I would not fail to report his Excellency's reflections to your Lordship.

During this conversation, which I have condensed, for it was of a very disjointed and desultory character, Prince Gortchakoff obligingly read to me a despatch which he had addressed to Baron Brunnov, commenting upon the tenor of your Lordship's instruction of the 6th instant to Mr. Scarlett. The strictures embodied in the Russian despatch are partly similar in spirit to those which the Vice-Chancellor verbally offered to me, and which I reported to your Lordship in my despatch of the 14th instant, but they are expanded and couched in much stronger language. The principles of popular right affirmed by your Lordship are animadverted on with some austerity; the character of revolutionary agencies, and of the revolutionary authorities in Greece, is contrasted unfavourably with that of the instruments of the English Revolution of 1688; the exclusion of Princes involved in the expression "connected with" is described as excessive and impolitic; the sentiments of Her Majesty's Government are only approved in so far as they are favourable to the re-establishment of monarchy and of good order, and assert the doctrine of non-intervention.

The Prince repeated that nothing had occurred beyond an exchange of remarks the most informal.

Referring to the departure of the Prince for Tsarskoe Seloe, I said that I hoped his Excellency would submit the overture and questions of Her Majesty's Government to His Majesty the Emperor, and inform me of any determination which His Majesty might take in reference to them.

The Prince answered that he would certainly report the substance of your Lordship's communications to His Majesty the Emperor.

I said I would advert to the subject when I next had the honour of seeing his Excellency.

In taking leave of the Vice-Chancellor, I observed that I was most anxious to lay before your Lordship's impartial judgment all that bore upon the nationality and position of the Duke of Leuchtenberg. There was a paper which illustrated that subject particularly, the Ukase by which, as I understood, the name of Romanoffsky had been bestowed on him and their Imperial Highnesses his brothers and sisters. I had not been able to find that document in my archives, nor to procure it. His Excellency would save me some time and trouble if he would give me a copy of it for the information of Her Majesty's Government. It was printed, it was a public document, his Excellency must have it at his command.

His Excellency replied that he had not got it by him; that he would not give it to me; that if he did so, he would seem to raise or continue an official discussion on a subject on which he did not intend to enter.

The discussion, of which I give your Lordship the substance, rather than the narrative, was unfortunately a very hurried one. I saw the Vice-Chancellor at half-past 8 in the morning, and his Excellency was obliged to prepare for the train which leaves St. Petersburg for the Imperial residence at Tsarskoe Seloe at 10 o'clock.

No. 66.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received November 26.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, November 20, 1862.

THE mere relationship existing between His Imperial Highness the Duke of Leuchtenberg and His Majesty the Emperor would probably not constitute him strictly a member of the Imperial Family, and exclude him under existing Treaties from the Throne of Greece.

Prince Henry of the Netherlands, like the Duke of Leuchtenberg, is the son of a Grand Duchess of Russia, but he is not a Prince of the Imperial Family, and Her Majesty's Government would probably not consider him debarred from the Hellenic Crown by Treaty.

If the Grand Duchess Olga of Russia, Crown Princess of Wurtemberg, had had children, her younger sons bred in the Protestant religion, and identified by education and association with their paternal nationality, would scarcely have fallen within the category of Princes contemplated by the engagements of 1830.

The Duke of Leuchtenberg himself, if he had been brought up in Bavaria by a father following the life and duties of a Bavarian Prince, and by a mother, although a daughter of the Emperor, identifying herself with the same, would not have been ranked with the Princes of the Imperial House of Russia; he might have been so dissociated in practice, and in fact, from his maternal nationality, that the Greeks might now have found in him a legitimate, distinguished, and appropriate Sovereign.

It may be doubted whether the Duke of Leuchtenberg is in the strictest sense of the word a Prince of the Imperial Family. He is a Russian Prince, Prince Nicholas Romanoffski, by Imperial creation, and he has received from the Emperor, in common with his brothers and sisters, the title of Imperial Highness, with the power of conveying it to his descendants as far as the third generation; but he is not placed exactly upon the same line as the children of the younger sons of the late Emperor—for instance, he is not prayed for in the Russian Liturgy. He is a Russian subject by birth, residence, baptism, and official declaration; but he may possibly also be a Bavarian subject according to the laws of Bavaria, in virtue of his Bavarian father and his Bavarian title. There is something mixed in his quality. It is not impossible that in the eyes of a German jurist the Duke is in the first instance a German Prince, and that a Russian jurist might now speciously contend that he is not a Prince of the Imperial Family.

I presume, however, that Her Majesty's Government do not regard this question as one which ought to be determined simply by the dictates of the civil law, either of Germany or Russia. There is a higher law—the law of European policy and international good faith—by which the letter of the Treaty stipulations affecting this question is to be illustrated and solved.

By the engagements of 1826 and 1827 the Powers interested in the creation and maintenance of the Greek nation declared that they would seek no exclusive influence in Greece, and by the Protocol of 1830, when about to nominate a Sovereign for Greece, they excluded from the Throne of that country the Princes belonging to their respective reigning Houses, no doubt in order to consolidate previous engagements, to avoid jealousies, and to eliminate an opportunity and an instrument for the exercise of that exclusive influence which they had renounced and condemned.

Now whether the Duke of Leuchtenberg be technically a Prince of the Imperial family or not, he is practically a Prince of the Imperial family. The late Emperor, who was tenderly attached to his grandchildren, did all he could to make them Russians, to identify them by every tie of affection, conviction, and habit with the Imperial family and the Russian nation. I do not dispute that the Duke of Leuchtenberg has always borne his national name, and that he is warmly attached to the memory of his father, to that of his distinguished grandfather, and to the idea of his Bavarian and French ancestry; but, nevertheless, His Imperial Highness is chiefly a Russian, and a Russian Prince of the Imperial House. His nomination to the Throne of Greece, unless he proved to have a mind of remarkable independence, would bring down upon that country a flood of Russian connections; it would probably saturate the Greek Court and Administration with that exclusive influence which we desire to avoid, and therefore his election is debarred by the Treaty engagements taken as whole, and construed by the spirit in which they were conceived.

In illustration of this subject, I beg to inclose a despatch from Sir Hamilton Seymour to the Earl of Malmesbury on the occasion of the death of His Imperial Highness the late Duke of Leuchtenberg.

I have also the honour to submit to your Lordship the Imperial Ukase alluded to by Her Majesty's Minister, by which the title of Prince Romanoffsky is conferred on the young Duke, in common with the other children, and by which the dignity of Imperial Highness is rendered hereditary in the family with a limitation.

The translation made by Mr. Grant Duff, recently attached to this Embassy, may be depended upon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NAPIER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 66.

Sir G. H. Seymour to the Earl of Malmesbury.

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, December 22, 1852.

I LEARN that by an Ukase which was signed yesterday, but which is not yet published, the name and title of Princes of Romanoffsky has been conferred by the Emperor upon the children of the late Duke of Leuchtenberg, who, as I take for granted, are therefore to be considered as Russian subjects, as they belonged previously to the Russian Church.

These children, as your Lordship is probably aware, were already possessed of the title of Imperial Highness, as indeed will be their immediate descendants, the degree being secured in three generations in the Imperial family.

I had at first imagined that the change of name which I have had the honour of announcing would be displeasing to the House of Bavaria, but from a conversation which I have just held with Count de Bray, I infer that this is not the case.

The very date, indeed, of the Ukase shows that the intention of the Emperor was to confer a benefit upon his grandchildren, the St. Nicholas being a day upon which, according to Russian custom, large distributions of honours and favours are made.

Among those persons who received yesterday marks of the goodwill of that Sovereign, were Count Bloudoff and Count Kisseleff, to whom the Emperor sent the decoration of his portrait in diamonds, and the Minister Perovski, his brother, and General Soukhasonet, upon whom His Majesty conferred the Order of St. André.

To revert to the Imperial grandchildren, I ought to observe to your Lordship that I collect from Count de Bray that the eldest son will be known in Bavaria as the Duke of Leuchtenberg, and in Russia as Prince Romanoffsky.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 66.

Ukase dated December 21, 1852.

(Translation.)

Ukase of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of All the Russias, from the Governing Senate.

ACCORDING to the special and most mighty Ukase of His Imperial Majesty, issued to the governing Senate on the 6th day of this month of December, furnished with the signature of His Imperial Majesty himself, in which is laid down the following :—

Having taken into consideration that our most beloved grandchildren their Imperial Highnesses the Princes Nicholas,* Eugene, Sergius, and George Maximilianovitch, and the Princesses Marie and Eugenie Maximilianovni, the children of our most beloved daughter Her Imperial Highness the Princess Marie Nicholaevna and of His Imperial Highness the deceased Duke Maximilian of Leuchtenberg, were born in Russia, and have received holy baptism in the Orthodox Catholic Eastern Church, being thereby already adopted into our beloved country, We have deemed it beneficial to confer on them, in commemoration of their descent from the never-to-be-forgotten founder of our house, the rank of Princes and Princesses Romanoffsky. The title conferred on them of Imperial Highnesses is to be preserved in their male descendants up to their great great-grandchildren. The governing Senate will not fail to make the necessary arrangements for this purpose. The coat of arms which we have appointed for their Imperial Highnesses the Princes and the Princesses Romanoffsky, we have commanded the Minister of our Court to convey to the governing Senate.

The governing Senate has ordained to issue Ukases of the specific order of His Imperial Majesty to all government, army, and circuit authorities, and to give notice by these same (Ukases) to Ministers and the principal officers of special branches and Civil Governors, also to the Most Holy Governing Synod, to all departments of the governing Senate, and to all assemblies thereof; to give information also to the department of the Minister of Justice, with a copy of the order, and to publish the same in the "Senatorial Journal."

No. 67.

Earl Russell to Mr. Scarlett.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 27, 1862.

IN considering your despatches from the 27th to the 31st ultimo, I do not find that there is anything in them which calls for particular remark.

The intention professed by the Provisional Government to maintain order at home and to commit no aggression upon Turkey is very gratifying. You should encourage these dispositions, which cannot fail to be satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government.

There appears no reason to apprehend that a foreign occupation will become neces-

* The present Duke.

sary. If it is not absolutely necessary, nothing could be more unjustifiable or more mischievous.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 68.

Mr. Elliot to Mr. Hammond.—(Received November 27.)

Sir,

Downing Street, November 27, 1862.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Russell, the inclosed copy of a despatch from Sir Henry Storks respecting the affairs of Greece.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. FREDK. ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 68.

Sir H. Storks to the Duke of Newcastle.

My Lord Duke,

Corfu, November 18, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Grace that my reports from Greece represent affairs as quiet.

In the neighbourhood of Patras, the Regular troops that had shown a disposition to come down and plunder the town have been quieted, and have pointed out certain parties who, they say, induced them to attempt acts contrary to order and discipline. The parties accused are reported to have been arrested.

The National Guard in that neighbourhood is being formed, and it is expected that about 1,000 men will be enrolled. The inhabitants of Patras have subscribed about 500*l.* towards the maintenance of the force.

At Missolonghi things were in an unsatisfactory state, but my last reports go to show that order is being restored. The insurgents had left for their homes.

A strong desire is declared to continue in Greece for the selection of an English Prince as King of that country. I am informed, that in all parts of Greece this desire is universal, and there would be no doubt of the vote of the Constituent Assembly, if called together at this moment; but as the period fixed for the meeting is not till the 22nd December, public opinion may undergo a change.

Her Majesty's ship "Shannon" is at Patras; the "Icarus" at Missolonghi. At the former place are also assembled a French gun-boat, and one Italian and one Austrian man-of-war.

In these States the most perfect tranquillity prevails, and a very strong feeling exists in favour of the election of an English Prince to the Greek Throne.

Those who were loudest in their abuse of English protection, and who were the principal movers in the violent Addresses and other improper proceedings of the Legislative Assembly, are now the warm supporters of England, and the loudest in praise of her system, her justice, and her love of freedom.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

No. 69.

Earl Russell to Lord Napier.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, November 28, 1862.

I HAVE received and laid before the Queen your Excellency's despatch of the 19th instant. I am sorry to say that despatch is very unsatisfactory.

In order to explain my meaning fully, I will revert to various communications which
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have passed between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of His Imperial Majesty.

On the 29th of October Baron Brunnow asked me whether Her Majesty's Government were disposed to act in concert with France and Russia on the affairs of Greece. I answered him that Her Majesty's Government were so disposed.

On the 31st of October you informed me that Prince Gortchakoff had declared to you that the stipulations by which the Princes of the families reigning in the States of the Protecting Powers were rendered incapable of accepting the Throne of Greece could not be annulled without the mutual consent of all the three Powers.

On the 1st of November I stated to you that Her Majesty's Government were glad to be acquainted with the views of Prince Gortchakoff, and that I felt sure the three Powers would agree about their duties and obligations in regard to Greece.

About the same time I wrote privately to Baron Brunnow to state that Her Majesty's Government were disposed to concur in the view taken by Prince Gortchakoff of the engagements of the three Powers, and that by those engagements, if maintained, His Royal Highness Prince Alfred and His Imperial Highness the Duke of Leuchtenberg would be equally incapable of accepting the Throne of Greece.

On the 19th of November you informed me that you had waited on Prince Gortchakoff to learn whether he was prepared to make a declaration to the Provisional Government of Greece to the effect of his language to you of the 31st of October, and to inquire whether the Duke of Leuchtenberg was considered as a Prince of the Imperial family of Russia.

To the proposal of a joint declaration Prince Gortchakoff offers sundry objections, and to the inquiry he replies in substance that it is premature; that it is a matter of juridical discussion, and that it may never be decided at all.

Her Majesty's Government are much disappointed at these answers. They had thought that if the Protocols and other engagements were to be adhered to, it would be fair to inform the Greek nation before they proceeded to the choice of a new King.

They had understood from the organs of Greek opinion both at Athens and in London that Greece would not consent to accept a Prince of the Bavarian family. Her Majesty's Government are not prepared to offer a King to Greece who is sure to be rejected.

With regard to the Duke of Leuchtenberg Her Majesty's Government had in their minds the Ukase by which the Duke of Leuchtenberg and his children were called "Imperial Highness," changed their family name to that of Romanoffsky, and became members of the Imperial family. They have been informed that Her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess Marie, the Duchess of Leuchtenberg, was made guardian of her children, with the faculty, accorded to none but members of the Imperial family, of selling the freehold estates of the Duke of Leuchtenberg. That in pursuance of this faculty the estates of the family in Bavaria had been sold, and that the proper title of the Duke in Russia is His Imperial Highness Prince Romanoffsky. Such being the information Her Majesty's Government have received, the greater part of which admits of no doubt, Her Majesty's Government concluded that if the engagements of Great Britain and Russia in 1826, and of the three Powers from 1827 to 1832, were not dissolved by mutual consent, His Imperial Highness Prince Romanoffsky, Duke of Leuchtenberg, is incapable of accepting the Throne of Greece. So much as to the obligations and duties of the three Powers.

As a question of policy I desire you to state to Prince Gortchakoff that Her Majesty's Government frankly avow that they have no wish to see an English Prince on the Throne of Greece, but that we have insurmountable objections to seeing a Russian Prince on that Throne; that his being King of Greece would place us in direct antagonism with Greece, and, in all probability, would lead to the most serious differences between England and the Greek kingdom, and, in fact, would greatly endanger the peace of Europe. Her Majesty's Government will, therefore, take every fair and honourable means to prevent the Duke of Leuchtenberg from becoming King of Greece.

If the Princes of the reigning families of Great Britain, France, and Russia were set aside as incapable of accepting the Throne, the three Protecting Powers, while avowing their adherence to the engagements of 1827, 1830, and 1832, might suggest to the Greek Provisional Government the names of Princes qualified to wear the Crown of Greece.

You may give a copy of this despatch to Prince Gortchakoff.

No. 70.

Earl Russell to Lord Napier.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 28, 1862.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 14th instant, reporting your interview with Prince Gortchakoff on the occasion of placing in his Excellency's hands my despatch of the 6th instant to Mr. Scarlett on the present state of affairs in Greece, and I have to observe, with reference to Prince Gortchakoff's remark on the 10th paragraph of that despatch, that his Excellency is quite right in considering the words "connected with" as too wide. "A member of the family," or "a part of the family," would be better.

"Those of the families" are the exact words applied in the Protocol of 1830 to the Princes designated; but the words of the diplomatic instruments from 1826 to 1832 evidently include, and are applicable to, His Imperial Highness the Prince Romanoffsky, Duke of Leuchtenberg.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 71:

Earl Russell to Lord Napier.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 28, 1862.

I HAVE received from Munich certain documents, or rather copies of documents, to the effect of the inclosure I now transmit. I shall be glad if your Excellency can ascertain whether these documents, of which I send you an exact copy, are genuine.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

Inclosure in No. 71.

Documents received from Munich.

LE Soussigné, Ministre de la Maison de l'Empereur, certifie que d'après le testament de feu son Altesse Impériale Monseigneur le Duc de Leuchtenberg (Maximilien Eugène Joseph) en date du 3 Juin, 1851, déposé aux archives du Ministère de la Maison de l'Empereur, les héritiers de feu son Altesse Impériale Monseigneur le Duc de Leuchtenberg sont :

Pour les Majorats de France et de Bavière :

Son Altesse Impériale Monseigneur le Prince Nicolas Maximilianowitch, fils aîné ; et

Pour la fortune allodiale : tous les enfans de la dite Altesse Impériale, savoir :

Son Altesse Impériale Monseigneur le Prince *Nicolas* Maximilianowitch ;

Son Altesse Impériale Madame la Princesse *Marie* Maximilianowna ;

Son Altesse Impériale Madame la Princesse *Eugénie* Maximilianowna ;

Son Altesse Impériale Monseigneur le Prince *Eugène* Maximilianowitch ;

Son Altesse Impériale Monseigneur le Prince *Serge* Maximilianowitch ;

Son Altesse Impériale Monseigneur le Prince *George* Maximilianowitch.

Qui tous les six sont membres de la famille Impériale de Russie et sous la tutelle de leur Auguste Mère Son Altesse Impériale Madame la Grande Duchesse Marie Nicolaewna.

St. Pétersbourg, le ^{25 Novembre} _{7 Décembre} *, 1852.*

(L.S. double Eagle with Crown.)

COMTE WLADIMIR D'ADLERBERG,
*Ministre de la Maison de Sa Majesté l'Empereur
de Russie.*

Le Ministère Impérial des Affaires Etrangères certifie véritable la signature ci-dessus de son Excellence M. l'Aide-de-camp Général Comte Wladimir d'Adlerberg, Ministre de la Maison de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de Russie. En foi de quoi le dit Ministère a fait munir la présente de son sceau.

St. Pétersbourg, le 26 Novembre, 1852.

Le Directeur du Département de l'Intérieur,
(L.S. double Eagle with Crown.) HILFERDING.
Le Chef de Section,
A. PHILOSOPHOFF.

Die Richtigkeit vorstehender Unterschrift und Fertigung bestätigt die Königlich Bayerische Gesandtschaft.

St. Petersburg, den 9. December, 1852.

(L.S.) Graf v. Bray.

Vu pour légalisation de la signature de M. le Conseiller Privé de Hilferding, Directeur au Département des Affaires Etrangères de Russie.

St. Pétersbourg, le 10 Décembre, 1862.

Pour le Ministre de France,
Le Second Secrétaire de la Légation,
(L.S.) C. A. RAYNEVAL.

Le Soussigné, Ministre de la Maison de l'Empereur, certifie que d'après les lois qui régissent l'Empire de Russie, tout membre de la famille Impériale, appelé à exercer une tutelle sur des enfants mineurs, peut disposer librement des biens de ces mineurs sans aucun contrôle et sans aucune des formalités auxquelles sont soumis les particuliers dans le même cas.

St. Pétersbourg, le ²⁵ Novembre ⁷ Décembre, 1852.

(L.S. double Eagle with Crown.) COMTE WLADIMIR D'ADLERBERG,
Ministre de la Maison de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de Russie.

Le Ministère Impérial des Affaires Etrangères certifie véritable la signature ci-dessus de son Excellence M. l'Aide-de-camp Général Comte Wladimir d'Adlerberg, Ministre de la Maison de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de Russie. En foi de quoi le dit Ministère a fait munir la présente de son sceau.

St. Pétersbourg, le 26 Novembre, 1852.

Le Directeur du Département de l'Intérieur,
(L.S. double Eagle and Crown) HILFERDING.
Le Chef de Section,
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Die Richtigkeit vorstehender Unterschrift und Fertigung bestätigt die Königlich Bayerische Gesandtschaft.

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St. Pétersbourg, le 10 Décembre, 1852.

Pour le Ministre de France,
Le Second Secrétaire de la Légation,
(L.S.) C. A. DE RAYNEVAL.

THE Undersigned, Minister of the Emperor's House, certifies that according to the will of his late Imperial Highness the Duke of Leuchtenberg (Maximilian Eugene Joseph), dated the 3rd June, 1851, placed in the archives of the Ministry of the House of the Emperor, the heirs of His late Imperial Highness the Duke of Leuchtenberg, are :

For the Majorats of France and Bavaria :

His Imperial Highness Monseigneur the Prince Nicolas Maximilianowitch, eldest son ;
and

For the allodial fortune : all the children of the said Imperial Highness, that is :

His Imperial Highness Monseigneur the Prince *Nicolas* Maximilianowitch ;

Her Imperial Highness Madame the Princess *Marie* Maximilianowna ;

Her Imperial Highness Madame the Princess *Eugénie* Maximilianowna ;

His Imperial Highness Monseigneur the Prince *Eugène* Maximilianowitch ;

His Imperial Highness Monseigneur the Prince *Serge* Maximilianowitch ;

His Imperial Highness Monseigneur the Prince *George* Maximilianowitch.

All of which six are members of the Imperial family of Russia, and under the guardianship of their August Mother, Her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess Marie Nicolaewna.

St. Petersburg, ^{November 25}
^{December 7,} 1862.

(L.S. double Eagle with Crown.)

COMTE WLADIMIR D'ADLERBERG,
*Minister of the House of His Majesty the Emperor
of Russia.*

[Follow three verifications of signatures.]

The Undersigned, Minister of the House of the Emperor, certifies that, according to the laws in force in the Empire of Russia, every member of the Imperial Family called upon to act as guardian to children under age, can freely dispose of the goods of these minors, without any control, and without any of the formalities to which private persons are liable in a similar case.

St. Petersburg, ^{November 25}
^{December 7,} 1862.

(L.S. double Eagle with Crown.)

COMTE WLADIMIR D'ADLERBERG,
*Minister of the House of His Majesty the Emperor
of Russia.*

[Follow three verifications of signatures.]

No. 72.

Earl Russell to Lord Napier.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 28, 1862.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 19th instant, I inclose, for your information, a copy of a Ukase dated the 2nd July, 1839, granting the title of Imperial Highness to the late Duke of Leuchtenberg ; together with a copy of the Ukase of the 6th December, 1852, by which children of the late Duke of Leuchtenberg were made Imperial Highnesses and members of the Family of Romanoffsky.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

Extract from the "Journal de St. Pétersbourg" of July $\frac{6}{18}$, 1839.

Manifeste de Sa Majesté l'Empereur.

PAR la grace de Dieu, Nous Nicolas, premier Empereur et Autocrate de toutes les Russies,

Savoir faisons à tous nos fidèles sujets le 2 de ce mois, avec l'aide de la Providence Divine, la célébration du mariage de notre très aimée fille la Grande Duchesse Marie Nicolaïevna avec Son Altesse Sérénissime le Duc Maximilien de Leuchtenberg a eu lieu, d'après le rite de notre Eglise Orthodoxe. En rendant grâces au Très-Haut d'un si heureux événement pour notre Maison, nous éprouvons la conviction que tous nos fidèles sujets aimeront d'autant plus à y prendre part qu'en formant cette alliance nous avons eu à cœur de fixer en Russie le séjour de Son Altesse Sérénissime avec son epoux, désirant par là assurer leur bonheur au sien de notre chère patrie, ainsi qu'ils en avaient mutuellement exprimé l'intention, à la vive satisfaction de notre épouse très aimée l'Impératrice Alexandra Feodorovna.

Voulant manifester combien cette intention nous est agréable et offrir en même temps une nouvelle preuve d'affection à notre fille très aimée, ainsi qu'un témoignage des sentiments d'égards que nous inspirent les qualités distinguées du Duc de Leuchtenberg, nous avons résolu de donner à sa personne le titre d'Altesse Impériale. En lui accordant ce titre dès à présent et pour toujours, nous ordonnons au Sénat, dirigeant de préparer à cet effet le diplôme et les armes correspondants à ce titre, et de les soumettre à notre confirmation.

Après avoir ainsi formé les liens d'une alliance qui nous est si chère, nous appelons nos fidèles sujets, partageant avec nous la joie de notre cœur paternel, à adresser leurs ferventes prières au Très-Haut, qui règle les destinées du monde, afin qu'il daigne accorder aux nouveaux époux un bonheur et une paix inaltérables et assurer le bien-être de toute notre Maison.

Fait à St. Pétersbourg, le 2 Juillet de l'an de grace 1839, et de notre règne le quatorze.

(Signé) NICOLAS.

(Translation.)

Manifesto of His Majesty the Emperor.

BY the grace of God, We, Nicholas, Emperor and Autocrat of all the Russias, make known to all our faithful subjects, that with the aid of Divine Providence the marriage of our well-beloved daughter the Grand Duchess Mary Nicolaïevna with His Serene Highness the Duke Maximilian of Leuchtenberg took place on the 2nd of this month, according to the rites of our Orthodox Church. In returning thanks to the Most High on this happy event for our family, we experience the conviction that all our faithful subjects will be all the more pleased as in forming this alliance our object has been to fix the residence of His Serene Highness and his spouse in Russia, being desirous of thereby ensuring their happiness in the bosom of our dear country, in accordance with the intention they have mutually expressed to the great satisfaction of our well-beloved spouse the Empress Alexandra Feodorovna.

Wishing to manifest how agreeable this intention is to us, and at the same time to offer a fresh proof of affection towards our well-beloved daughter, as well as to bear testimony to the sentiments of respect with which we are inspired by the sterling merits of the Duke of Leuchtenberg, we have determined to confer on him the title of Imperial Highness. In awarding him this title at once and for ever, we command the Senate to prepare with this end the diploma and arms belonging to this title and to submit them to our confirmation.

After having formed the ties of an alliance so dear to us, we call upon our faithful subjects who participate in the gladness of our paternal heart, to address their fervent prayers to the Most High, who rules the destinies of the world, in order that He may deign to accord unalterable happiness and peace to the newly wedded pair, and ensure the well-being of all our family.

Given at St. Petersburg, the 2nd of July, of the year of grace 1839, and the 14th of our reign.

(Signed) NICHOLAS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 72.

Extract from the "Journal de St. Pétersbourg" of Decem ber 12, 1852.

PRENANT en considération que nos bien aimés petits enfants Leurs Altesses Impériales les Princes Nicolas Maximilianovitch, Eugène Maximilianovitch, Serge Maximilianovitch, et Georges Maximilianovitch, et les Princesses Marie Maximilianovna et Eugénie Maximilianovna, enfants de notre fille bien-aimée Son Altesse Impériale la Grande Duchesse Marie Nicolaïevna et de feu Son Altesse Impériale le Duc Maximilian de Leuchtenberg, nés en Russie et baptisés dans le sein de l'Eglise Orthodoxe Catholique de l'Orient, appartiennent par le même à notre chère patrie, Nous avons jugé convenable de leur conférer, en témoignage de leur descendance de l'auguste fondateur de notre dynastie, le nom de Princes et Princesses Romanovsky. Le titre "Altesse Impériale" qui leur a été accordé se conservera dans leur descendance mâle jusqu'aux fils de nos arrière-petits-fils inclusivement. Le Sénat-dirigeant ne manquera pas de faire les dispositions nécessaires à cet égard. Nous avons ordonné au Ministre de notre Maison de transmettre au Sénat-dirigeant les armoires confirmés par Nous pour Leurs Altesses Impériales les Princes et Princesses Romanovsky.

[For Translation, see Inclosure 2 in No. 66.]

No. 73.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received November 29.)

(Extract.)

Athens, November 21, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose an extract from a Greek paper called the "Future of the East," which alludes to the report spread everywhere yesterday, that Prince Alfred is on his way to Corfu, and that His Royal Highness will be raised to the throne of the Seven United Islands.

Since your Lordship's instructions to me by the telegram of November 16th, I have, when asked any questions on the subject of a successor to the throne, merely held the language that I do not intend to interfere about the election of another Sovereign in this country.

Of the strength of the feeling existing here your Lordship will, however, best be able to judge by the extract herewith inclosed.

The writer on hearing from common report that I had received instructions to leave the Greeks entirely to their own inspirations in this conjuncture, apparently at once infers that I am favouring the movement. I need not assure your Lordship that my language both before and after the receipt of the telegram above referred to has been most guarded.

Inclosure in No. 73.

Extract from the Supplement of "L'Avenir de l'Orient" of $\frac{9}{21}$ November, 1862.

(Translation.)

YESTERDAY the most important news reached here that Prince Alfred, second son of the Queen of England, with an official Staff, was on his way to Corfu. A telegraphic despatch, addressed by the British Minister for Foreign Affairs to Mr. Scarlett, Her Britannic Majesty's Minister here, states that the desire of the British Government is, that the election for the members of the National Assembly should remain uninfluenced; and no opposition was to be made to any demonstration which might be made in favour of whomsoever as successor (to the Greek Throne).

We do not wish, nor are we able, to prejudge the designs of the National Assembly. If, however, their decision is to be the true expression of the public opinion of the nation, who, as it is announced from every quarter, has already formed its opinion as regards the successor, and manifested its sympathies as to whom it means to befriend, what resolution will be taken by the National Assembly on the subject is easy enough to be foreseen and comprehended.

If, and it is unquestionably so, the sympathies of the Greek population towards its

future King have been suggested, not by the intrigues of party at home, or by the presence of foreign diplomacy, but by the revolt and its spirit, whose mission it is to consolidate our new Constitutional institutions by the election of a Sovereign brought up to high personal and political virtues, who can guarantee by his political education and as descendant of a great and powerful Dynasty the greatness and future welfare of our country; if it is true that the inclination and sympathy which the Greek population has shown in favour of an English Prince is the result of the progress of the nation, and of its firm conviction as respects the manner of ensuring future welfare,—then it is easy to foresee whom the National Assembly will elect, as it must be guided by the voice of the nation.

But if the opinion of the Greek population is already known, and the future choice of the National Assembly is easily guessed, still the will of diplomacy, towed by selfish political interests and combinations, presents yet some fear. France and Russia, holding themselves behind the Protocol of 1832, by which the Dynasties of the three Powers are excluded from the right of succession to the Greek Throne, will, no doubt, throw impediments as regards the realization of the future election (choice) of the nation. But the nation must proceed, as in the face of its constituent authority no Treaty can hold, much less a Protocol in the drawing of which no Representative of the nation took part. When the nation, through the National Assembly, shall proclaim the national will, we shall see if the policy of the three Powers will still persist to sacrifice, as it has done so often, again poor Greece to mean and selfish combinations, and to false and unfounded fears. We all know how Europe respects accomplished facts. The nation must proceed, because the present question being the great question of its future, no diplomatic difficulty must influence or stop it. It must advance with the conviction that it will conquer all before it, and that diplomacy will bend, once convinced that only through this the nation is likely to prosper, and that it will not make personal interest or family sympathy towards its Dynasty the measure of its policy. The great examples in history of the omnipotence of England in the Cabinets and Diplomacy of Europe on all questions, its perseverance and ability in overcoming all questions, give us, on the other hand, great hopes which the above news respecting Prince Alfred tends to strengthen.

No. 74.

Earl Russell to Mr. Scarlett.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, November 29, 1862.

I HAD a long conversation yesterday with M. Tricoupi, the Chargé d'Affaires of Greece.

I told him that the prevailing desire in Greece to elect Prince Alfred as the Sovereign of that country induced me to speak seriously to him on that subject.

That I had told him some days ago that, however gratifying it must be to every Englishman to see such a tribute paid to the family of his Sovereign and the British nation, it was not to be expected that Prince Alfred would accept the Crown of Greece if offered to him.

I would state to M. Tricoupi the views of Her Majesty's Government as regarded the interests of Greece, and also those of England and of Europe.

With regard to Greece, it appeared to Her Majesty's Government that her first interest was to elect a Prince to rule over her who should be generally accepted. That he ought not to be a Prince under twenty years of age, but rather a Prince of mature years, and of some experience in the world.

That the first task of such a Prince would be to reform the abuses which had overgrown the whole internal affairs of the State; to give the freedom promised by the Constitution, and to provide for the security of person and property.

Then, as regarded England and Europe, there might be some legal doubt whether the Protocol of 1830, and the Treaty of 1832, were now in force, to exclude the Princes of England, France, and Russia from the throne of Greece; but Her Majesty's Government had no doubt whatever that it was desirable for those three Powers to acknowledge their validity. That the same disinterested spirit which prevailed in all the arrangements made with respect to Greece, from 1826 to 1832, ought to prevail now. It was the only mode of preventing jealousies now, and the danger of conflict hereafter, among the three Powers, injurious to Greece, and fatal to the peace of Europe. That if the spirit of those engage-

ments were adhered to, Prince Alfred and the Duke of Leuchtenberg, and any Prince of the Imperial Family reigning in France, were clearly incapable of accepting and wearing the Crown of Greece.

M. Tricoupi said he deeply regretted to hear this. It was understood all over Greece that the election of Prince Alfred meant respect for the Treaties which bound the Greek nation to respect other Powers, and a patient expectation that a time might hereafter arrive when Thessaly and Epirus, on one side, and the Ionian Islands, on the other, might be peacefully united to the Greek Kingdom. That thus all might be easy; every one would feel secure, and the peace of Europe would not be broken; that if any Prince, hitherto unknown, however personally unobjectionable, should be chosen, a weak Government would be the consequence; that such a Government would not be able to withstand the assaults of the violent party; a cry for an enlarged Greece would prevail, and aggression, insurrection, and war would follow. He hoped, therefore, Her Majesty's Government would deliberate calmly and carefully on the present situation before they decided to reject the unanimous and spontaneous offer of the Crown to Prince Alfred.

We had a good deal of desultory conversation respecting the Ionian Islands and other collateral matters, but I gave him no hope that any Prince of one of the three families reigning in Great Britain, France, or Russia could or would accept the Crown of Greece.

There are other considerations besides those which I thought it proper to communicate to the *Chargé d'Affaires* of Greece, which influence Her Majesty's resolution on this subject. It is Her Majesty's duty to look to the due succession to the Crown. Prince Alfred stands next to the Prince of Wales in the order of succession, and is heir presumptive to the Duchy of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. Amongst the contingencies which are far from being impossible, it might happen that the sons of Prince Alfred, after being brought up as members of the Greek Church, might be called upon to ascend the Throne of England. It is necessary to provide against chances of this kind, and you will therefore not be surprised to learn that it is Her Majesty's fixed determination not to give her consent to the acceptance by His Royal Highness Prince Alfred, or any other of Her Majesty's sons, of the Crown of Greece.

No. 75.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received November 29.)

(Extract.)

St. Petersburg, November 22, 1862.

I INFORMED Prince Gortchakoff yesterday that Her Majesty's Government considered that no constraint ought to be exerted towards the Greek nation in regard to the religion of their future Sovereign. If the Greeks chose to elect a Roman Catholic or Protestant Sovereign, and to stipulate that his heir should be educated in the Greek faith, Her Majesty's Government had nothing to say against it. The Greeks were free to modify the 40th Article of their Constitution, as they could alter any other Article. The engagements which Her Majesty's Government had contracted in 1852 with the other guaranteeing Powers had merely reference to the presumed succession to King Otho in the ordinary way. They could not be held to apply to a new Sovereign of another family elected to the throne in an exceptional manner.

In replying to this communication Prince Gortchakoff remarked that he thought your Lordship was refining too much on the sense of the Treaty. It had, particularly, reference to the Succession in the House of Bavaria, but it was substantially based on the sense which the Protecting Powers entertained, that the tie of a common religion should exist between the Sovereign of Greece and his people. He thought there was something inconsistent in the course adopted by Her Majesty's Government. They opened the door on one side too much, and closed it too much on the other. They took off a restriction respecting religion, which was essential to the welfare of Greece; and they confined the Greeks in too narrow limits with regard to the selection of their King. His Excellency admitted, however, but not very distinctly, that the religious question was one which chiefly regarded the determination of the Greeks themselves.

I said that the questions of election and religion were widely different. The exclusion of a Prince belonging to one of the three reigning families concerned us all equally, for we were equally interested in avoiding the jealousies and dissensions which would be engendered by the opposite course; but France and England could not object to the

choice of a Protestant or a Catholic Prince—they had no interest or obligation to do so. It remained for the Greeks to decide for themselves. We would not offer any opposition to their decision on the subject.

No. 76.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received November 29.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, November 22, 1862.

PRINCE GORTCHAKOFF remarked to me yesterday, in the course of our conversation, that impressions reached him to the effect that the election of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred to the Throne of Greece was agitated and impelled in a variety of ways. He did not, of course, believe that Her Majesty's Government countenanced anything of the sort; but the English Consular authorities were, perhaps, not idle in the matter, and influences of the same kind proceeded from the Ionian Islands. His Excellency contrasted these supposed proceedings with the reserve of the Russian Agents in the same quarters.

I said to the Prince that he must not lightly give credit to rumours which reached him from those quarters. The Greeks were a highly excitable, active, intriguing, loquacious people, not always exactly veracious; no doubt persons were running to and fro from one Mission to another at Athens, and from one Consulate to another all over the Levant, disseminating all kinds of tales slenderly supported in truth. His Excellency would have a proper measure of the value of such reports by looking into the Russian official newspaper of last Thursday. He would there see among the telegrams that Her Majesty's Government had "again taken up the candidature" of Prince Alfred. At the very moment that telegram was printed here, I was proposing to his Excellency, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, to make a common and anticipated declaration at Athens to the effect that Prince Alfred, with the other Princes of the three reigning Houses, would not be permitted to ascend the Throne of Greece. We must not attach too much importance to such chimerical assertions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NAPIER.

No. 77.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received November 29.)

(Extract.)

St. Petersburg, November 22, 1862.

I AM in possession of your Lordship's telegraphic instructions to avoid all further discussion with Prince Gortchakoff for the present, with reference to the election or succession to the Throne of Greece. It will be my duty to conform myself to your Lordship's orders. I do not, however, conceive that they prohibit me from a verification of what has already passed between the Vice-Chancellor and myself. The conversation which occurred on the morning of the 19th instant was of such a hurried description that there was room for misapprehension. I have, consequently, considered it to be my duty to lay before his Excellency my reports to your Lordship on the subject, in order that he might make any rectifications which he deemed necessary.

For this purpose I waited on the Prince yesterday forenoon, and I read him the draft of my despatch of the 19th instant.

The Vice-Chancellor admitted the general fidelity of my report, but he offered some corrections and explanations which it is now my duty to submit to your Lordship's attention.

In reference to the overtures proposed by the Vice-Chancellor to the Court of Bavaria, his Excellency observed that these overtures were intended to be made collectively. He proposed them to the other guaranteeing Powers. They would not be made by Russia alone.

I had not understood this to be the meaning of the Prince. He did not state it

distinctly. I lost no time in correcting my misapprehension, by forwarding a telegraphic despatch to your Lordship in the sense desired.

Where I state that in case the Bavarian Government should produce a Prince qualified for the succession in all respects, and especially in regard to religion, the Imperial Cabinet would offer that Prince to the Greek nation, Prince Gortchakoff hesitated at the word "offer," and substituted the still feebler terms of "would not refuse to indicate" the Prince to the Greeks.

In the passage having reference to the sentiments of the Russian Government in respect to the rights of the Duke of Leuchtenberg under the Treaty, I report that the Vice-Chancellor had disclaimed any "designs whatever" on behalf of the Duke, or any "secret policy." The Vice-Chancellor seemed to object, but slightly, to the expression "designs whatever;" he, however, added that my statement was scarcely sufficiently strong; he had in our conversation reiterated twice that Russia had no mental reservation, no cupidity ("arrière-pensée ou convoitise") in regard to the Greek succession. He begged I would state these words exactly and emphatically.

The Vice-Chancellor said that he regretted that I had referred to his despatch to Baron Brunnow in reply to your Lordship's instruction of the 6th instant to Mr. Scarlett. He thought my description of that despatch, of which he did not dispute the essential accuracy, might convey an impression that it was more opposed to the views of Her Majesty's Government than it really was. He allowed, however, that this was of very little moment, as your Lordship would hear the despatch first, and my appreciation of it afterwards.

No. 78.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received November 29.)

Sir,

Admiralty, November 28, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, extracts from a letter of Vice-Admiral Sir William Martin, dated at Malta the 22nd instant, relating to the state of affairs in Greece, and the movements of ships in the neighbourhood of that country.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure in No. 78.

Vice-Admiral Sir W. Martin to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

Malta, November 22, 1862.

THE "Edgar," with the flag of Rear-Admiral J. C. Dacres, will leave for Corfu after the arrival of the mail due this evening from Marseilles. I have come to the conclusion that under the present aspect of affairs in Greece, it is more desirable for Rear-Admiral Dacres to repair to Corfu than to Naples, which I stated was intended in my last general letter.

The "Queen" remains at the Piræus, with the "Pelican" and "Foxhound."

The Consul at the Piræus informs me, under date the 15th instant, that the public peace has not been in any way disturbed since my departure.

By last advices the "Shannon" was at Patras, and the "Icarus" at Santa Maura.

A French ship of the line passed Malta yesterday, steering to the eastward. It is probable she was going to the Piræus.

Earl Russell to Lord Napier.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 1, 1862.

IN a conversation which I had with Baron Brunnow respecting the exclusion from the throne of Greece which Her Majesty's Government hold to attach to the Prince Romanoffsky, Duke of Leuchtenberg, his Excellency referred to the "Annuaire Diplomatique" for the year 1862, published at St. Petersburg, as establishing the fact that his Imperial Highness is considered as a member of the family reigning in Russia.

This reference as far as it goes appeared to me satisfactory, but that no mistake may occur on the subject I have to instruct your Excellency to address an official note to Prince Gortchakoff stating what has passed between Baron Brunnow and myself as related in his despatch, and expressing the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at the inquiries which they have felt it to be their duty to make on this matter having established the fact that the Prince Romanoffsky is considered by the Russian Government as a member of the Imperial family of Russia, and is thereby excluded by the Treaty engagements of Russia from the throne of Greece.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 80.

*Extract from the "Annuaire Diplomatique de l'Empire de Russie, pour l'Année 1862."
2e Année. St. Pétersbourg, Imprimerie de Hogenfelden et Cie. 1862.*

"FAMILLE IMPERIALE. (Page 3).

"Sa Majesté l'Empereur et Sa Majesté l'Impératrice."

Then follows—

"ENFANTS.—1. Son Altesse Impériale Monseigneur le Césarévitch, Grand Duc Héritier Nicolas Alexandrowitch, né le 8 Septembre, 1843," and many others.

Then—"FILS."

Then—

"SŒURS DE L'EMPEREUR.—1. Son Altesse Impériale Madame la Grande Duchesse Marie Nicolaïewna, née le 6 Août, 1819.

"Enfants de Son Altesse Impériale Madame la Grande Duchesse Marie Nicolaïewna, issus de son mariage avec feu le Duc Maximilien de Leuchtenberg :—

"Fils.—Leurs Altesses Impériales les Princes Romanowsky, Ducs de Leuchtenberg :

"Monseigneur le Prince Nicolas Maximilianowitch, né le 23 Juillet, 1843 ;

"Monseigneur le Prince Eugène Maximilianowitch, né le 27 Janvier, 1847 ;

"Monseigneur le Prince Serge Maximilianowitch, né le 8 Décembre, 1849 ;

"Monseigneur le Prince Georges Maximilianowitch, né le 17 Février, 1852.

"Filles.—Leurs Altesses Impériales les Princesses Romanowsky, Duchesses de Leuchtenberg :

"Madame la Princesse Marie Maximilianowna, née le 4 Octobre, 1841 ;

"Madame la Princesse Eugénie Maximilianowna, née le 20 Mars, 1845.

"2. Son Altesse Impériale Madame la Grande Duchesse Olga Nicolaïevna, née le 30 Août, 1822 ; mariée à Son Altesse Royale le Prince Royal de Wurtemberg, Charles Frédéric Alexandre."

Then follows—"Tantes de L'Empereur."

And then—"Fille."

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received December 2.)

My Lord,

Athens, November 22, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith to your Lordship the first number of a French paper which is to appear weekly at Athens, containing the chief public Acts and Decrees issued by the Provisional Government of Greece since their establishment.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

Inclosure in No. 82.

First Number of "La Grèce, Journal Politique et Littéraire," published November 20, 1862.

ATHENES.

LES grands événements que la Grèce vient de voir s'accomplir lui permettent d'espérer de triompher de l'oubli où semblaient l'avoir mise les autres nations. En entrant dans cette nouvelle phase, elle a le plus grand intérêt à éclairer l'opinion publique et les Gouvernements de l'Europe sur sa situation et ses affaires politiques. C'est pour répondre à ce besoin généralement compris par le pays, que nous entreprenons la publication d'un journal en langue Française sous le titre de "La Grèce."

Pour faire connaître avec impartialité la marche des affaires du pays nous publierons tous les actes officiels et les documents émanés du Gouvernement ; et nous donnerons une revue des principaux journaux toutes les fois qu'ils nous paraîtront offrir de l'intérêt pour nos lecteurs.

Pour ce qui regarde le fond même du journal, nous nous efforcerons de défendre les intérêts et les droits de la Grèce contre ses détracteurs, et de faire connaître la situation du pays, sous les différents aspects qui peuvent intéresser les autres nations et nous faire conquérir leurs sympathies.

La tâche que nous entreprenons est ardue et nous impose des sacrifices ; mais nous avons l'espoir et la confiance que les amis de la patrie qui sont jaloux de sa grandeur à venir, nous soutiendront dans notre entreprise.

La Grèce paraîtra une fois chaque semaine. Le prix d'abonnement, pour Athènes, sera de 20 drachmes ; pour la France, l'Angleterre, et la Turquie, 25 drachmes ; pour la l'Allemagne et les Principautés Danubiennes, 32 drachmes.

ACTES OFFICIELS.

Décret de la Nation.

LES maux de la patrie sont cessés. Toutes les provinces et la capitale s'étant entendues avec l'armée y ont mis fin. Par décision unanime du peuple Grec il est arrêté et décrété ce qui suit :—

1. Othon est déchue du trône.
2. Amalie est déchue de la régence.
3. Un Gouvernement Provisoire est établi pour gouverner l'Etat jusqu'à la réunion de l'Assemblée Nationale.

Il est ainsi composé :—

Démétrius Boulgaris, Président.

Constantin Canaris.

Benizelo Rouffos.

4. Une Assemblée Constituante sera convoquée immédiatement pour constituer le Gouvernement et faire l'élection d'un Roi.

Vive la nation, vive la patrie !

Athènes, le 22 Octobre, 1862.

Cette pièce qui a été rédigée dans la nuit du 22 au 23, a été publiée le 23 au matin.

Le même jour à onze heures et demie avant midi, M. Boulgaris a prêté serment entre les mains de l'Archevêque d'Athènes, Président du Saint Synode. Voici le procès-verbal :—

“Ce jourd'hui, vingt-trois Octobre, mil huit cent soixante-deux, le jour de Jeudi, à onze heures et demie avant midi, dans la salle de l'Université Hellénique, a comparu devant nous, Archevêque d'Athènes et Président du Saint Synode de la Grèce, M. Démétrius Boulgaris, Président du Gouvernement Provisoire, et il a prêté sur le Saint Evangile, en présence du peuple, le serment suivant :

“Je jure de garder fidélité à la patrie et de me servir pour l'intérêt de la nation du pouvoir qui m'est confié.”

“En foi de quoi a été rédigé le présent procès-verbal, qui, après lecture faite à haute et intelligible voix, a été signé par nous.

“L'Archevêque d'Athènes et Président du Saint Synode,
(Signé) “THEOPHILOS.

“Le Président du Gouvernement Provisoire,
“DEMETRIUS BOULGARIS.”

ROYAUME DE GRECE.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire aux Grecs.

Hellènes !

Les vœux de la nation ont été exaucés par la Divine Providence : le peuple et l'armée ont, d'un commun accord, supprimé la dynastie d'Othon, et ont établi un Gouvernement Provisoire, composé des citoyens D. G. Boulgaris, Président, C. Canaris, et B. Rouffos.

Athènes, le 23 Octobre, 1862.

Le Président,
(Signé) D. G. BOULGARIS.

Procès-Verbal du Serment des Membres du Ministère formé par le Président du Gouvernement Provisoire.

“Ce jourd'hui, vingt-trois Octobre, mil huit cent soixante-deux, le jour de Jeudi, à dix heures avant midi, dans la salle de l'Université Hellénique, ont comparu devant nous, Archevêque d'Athènes et Président du Saint Synode de la Grèce, MM. Tatsis Manghinias, Ministre des Finances, Démétrius Callifronas, Ministre de la Marine, Démétrius Mavromichalis, Ministre de la Guerre, Thrasybule Zaimis, Ministre de l'Intérieur, Alexandre Coumoundouros, Ministre de la Justice, Basile Nicolopoulos, Ministre du Culte, Adam Diamantopoulos, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, et Epaminondas Déligeorgis, Ministre de l'Instruction Publique, et ils ont prêté sur le Saint Evangile le serment suivant :—

“Je jure de garder fidélité à la patrie, d'obéir aux lois de l'Etat et au Gouvernement Provisoire, et de remplir avec honneur et conscience la charge qui m'est confiée.”

L'Archevêque d'Athènes, Président du Saint Synode,
(Signé) “THEOPHILOS.

“Les Ministres,
(Signé) “TATSIS MANGHINAS.
“D. CALLIFRONAS.
“D. MAVROMICHALIS.
“THRAS. ZAIMIS.
“B. NICOLOPOULOS.
“EP. DELIGEORGIS.
“ADAM. DIAMANTOPOULOS.
“AL. COUMOUNDOUROS.”

ROYAUME DE GRECE.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire aux Grecs.

Un système de politique qui humiliait la dignité nationale, qui conduisait à la dégradation morale ; un système de Gouvernement qui foulait aux pieds le respect dû aux lois et aux consciences, devait avoir pour effet de soulever contre lui l'opinion de la nation et de la pousser à une révolution. Aussi à peine plusieurs provinces avaient-elles entrepris depuis

quelques jours cette grande œuvre, que presque toutes les autres provinces du royaume se sont soulevées, ont renversé les autorités constituées, et avec le concours de notre noble et brave armée elles ont établi de nouvelles autorités locales.

Dans la nuit du 22 au 23, le même besoin, le même désir a fait lever l'étendard de la révolte au peuple de la capitale, qui, rivalisant de patriotisme avec le peuple des provinces, a demandé par acclamation le renversement de l'ordre de choses établi. L'armée, fidèle gardienne du dépôt qui lui a été confié par la nation pour assurer la foi du serment et maintenir la force des lois, digne du nom d'armée Grecque, a soutenu l'entreprise du peuple; et c'est ainsi que d'un commun accord l'ordre de choses établi a été renversé par le fait de la déchéance prononcée contre celui qui occupait le trône de Grèce, et par l'abrogation des droits à la régence qui avaient été conférés à son épouse. Il a été établi un Gouvernement Provisoire, composé de MM. D. G. Boulgaris, Président, C. Canaris, et B. Rouffos.

Le Président du nouveau Gouvernement a, en conséquence, formé une Ministère qui est ainsi composé: MM. T. Manghinass, aux Finances; Th. A. Zaimis, à l'Intérieur; Alexandre Comoundouros, à la Justice; D. Mavromichalis, à la Guerre; E. Déligeorgis, à l'Instruction Publique; D. Callifronas, à la Marine; B. Nicolopoulos, aux Cultes; A. Diamantopoulos, aux Affaires Etrangères.

La mission que le Gouvernement Provisoire a reçue du peuple et de l'armée est de maintenir le régime monarchique constitutionnel; de témoigner aux trois Puissances Protectrices la déférence et la reconnaissance inaltérables de la Grèce envers elles; de conserver intactes les relations amicales de l'Etat avec toutes les autres Puissances; de convoquer promptement l'Assemblée Nationale; de sauvegarder, pendant cet intervalle, l'ordre et la sécurité publics, et de mettre en exécution les lois de l'Etat.

Nous accomplirons ce devoir avec une entière fidélité et avec zèle, prêts à remettre le pouvoir entre les mains de l'Assemblée Nationale.

Mais pour que cette grande œuvre sacrée s'accomplisse, il faut que le patriotisme de tous se maintienne dans toute sa force. Nous faisons donc appel à votre patriotisme, Hellènes, et nous attendons de votre part, non seulement le maintien de l'ordre et de la tranquillité, mais encore cette abnégation qui a toujours distingué, par le passé, la nation Grecque dans les circonstances critiques; et nous espérons que le Tout-Puissant, qui n'a jamais abandonné la Grèce, soutiendra nos faibles mais sincères efforts, et qu'il bénira notre œuvre, en affermissant le nouvel ordre de choses, pour la gloire du nom Grec.

Athènes, le 23 Octobre, 1862.

Le Président du Gouvernement Provisoire de la Grèce,
(Signé) D. G. BOULGARIS.

Les Ministres Secrétaires d'Etat,
(Signé) T. MANGHINAS.
TH. A. ZAIMIS.
ALEX. COUMOUNDOUROS.
D. MAVROMICHALIS.
E. DELIGEORGIS.
D. CALLIFRONAS.
A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.
B. NICOLOPOULOS.

Le Secrétaire-Général du Gouvernement Provisoire,
N. A. CHATSOPoulos.

ROYAUME DE GRECE.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire aux Grecs.

Concitoyens,

La principale mission qui nous a été confiée, dans la nuit du 22 au 23 Octobre, par la volonté manifeste de la nation, était de convoquer l'Assemblée Nationale, à qui il appartient de régler définitivement ce qui concerne la composition du Gouvernement et l'élection d'un Prince, et d'achever l'œuvre nationale dont le commencement a été béni par la main du Seigneur. Pour remplir cette mission, nous convoquons, à Athènes, l'Assemblée de représentants de la nation, et nous en fixons l'ouverture au dix du mois de Décembre, en bénissant le Très-Haut, qui a fortifié le sentiment de l'amour pour la patrie dans les cœurs de tous nos concitoyens, et qui a daigné permettre que nous voyions l'œuvre commencée se continuer jusqu'à présent au milieu de l'enthousiasme et dans des sentiments de fraternité.

L'accomplissement de cette mission nous imposait en même temps le devoir de nous occuper de la loi suivant laquelle doivent être élus les représentants de la nation. Dans

nos délibérations à ce sujet, nous n'avons pas perdu de vue la volonté que la nation a toujours manifestée par ses protestations réitérées dans le passé, qu'elle entend qu'une liberté absolue soit assurée aux électeurs pour former leur conviction ; que leur conviction même soit protégée contre toute influence matérielle ou morale, afin qu'elle se manifeste pleine et entière, et qu'une fois manifestée elle reste inaltérable dans sa sincérité.

Le Décret du 16 Mars, 1829, concernant les élections de représentants de la quatrième Assemblée, qui répondait peut-être à ces besoins à l'époque où il fut rendu, a été depuis reconnu insuffisant dans l'application ; et nous avons jugé qu'il ne peut pas satisfaire ces désirs de la nation ; car il était basé sur un système électoral qui, aujourd'hui, n'est plus regardé comme pouvant exprimer fidèlement la volonté des électeurs. Quant à la Loi du 30 Mars concernant les élections des Députés, quoique établie sur des principes justes et vrais, et telle que l'a jugé convenable l'Assemblée Nationale du 15 Septembre, néanmoins il est incontestable qu'elle contient des imperfections ; et c'est précisément à cause de ces imperfections que, sous le Gouvernement déchu, la volonté nationale a été altérée par la violation de ses dispositions avec une inconcevable hardiesse.

C'est par cela que nous devons nécessairement, non par nous borner à déterminer la loi suivant laquelle doivent s'opérer les élections des représentants, mais aussi en étendre les dispositions, de manière à combler les lacunes qu'une longue expérience y a fait reconnaître, afin que l'expression de la conviction des électeurs soit environnée d'une force protectrice invincible.

Par ces nouvelles dispositions, d'un côté, le vote universel de tout le peuple est appliqué ; de l'autre, le vote primitif et sincère des électeurs est maintenu : un besoin urgent de la nation se trouve ainsi satisfait par les élections, auxquelles il ne sera apporté aucun retard, vu que les listes électorales qui ont été dressées d'après la Loi du 30 Mars, 1844, pour l'élection des Députés, sont maintenues, tandis que si l'on eût voulu faire de nouvelles listes électorales, pour les dresser et les vérifier on aurait été obligé de remettre à un long délai les élections des représentants. Néanmoins ces dispositions, qui modifient et complètent la loi, font disparaître les inconvénients qu'offre l'état vicieux avoué de ces listes, attendu qu'on a la faculté de remédier à ces fautes pendant le vote même et de découvrir la vérité, toutes les garanties possibles étant données à ce sujet. Pendant les élections les droits des parties qui sont en lutte entre elles sont sauvegardés ; mais l'intérêt de l'ordre public est aussi représenté. Enfin ce ne sont pas seulement les citoyens Grecs qui habitent le pays qui sont appelés à envoyer des représentants à l'Assemblée, mais encore ceux qui en étant éloignés, travaillent à honorer le nom Grec et qui s'occupent avec une constante sollicitude à la prospérité de la patrie ; l'importance de la mission qui est confiée aux représentants est sauvegardée en appelant des diverses provinces de l'Etat dans l'Assemblée un nombre de membres doubles de celui des Députés dans les Chambres du régime précédent.

Ainsi en mettant en vigueur pour l'élection des représentants de la nation la Loi du 30 Mars, 1844, modifiée et complétée par le Décret joint à la présente, nous appelons nos concitoyens à élire leurs représentants suivant ses dispositions. Il est possible que l'imperfection inhérente aux ouvrages des hommes se trouve dans ce Décret même qui a pour objet de modifier et de compléter cette Loi ; toutefois, nous espérons que le respect pour la liberté que l'histoire de notre pays présente comme étant sans contredit dans le caractère du Grec, fera hésiter nos concitoyens à influencer la liberté du vote des électeurs, et leur fera respecter la conviction de ces derniers une fois exprimée par leur vote.

Concitoyens ! puisse le Tout-Puissant, qui n'a jamais abandonné la Grèce, vous unir dans la fraternité et la concorde pendant que vous exercerez votre droit souverain, afin que notre chère patrie n'ait point à se voiler la face pendant ce mouvement électoral.

Athènes, le 4 Octobre, 1862.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire,

(Signé)

D. G. BOULGARIS, *Président.*
C. CANARIS.

Les Ministres Secrétaires d'Etat,
(Signé)

TH. A. ZAIMIS.
T. MANGHINAS.
A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.
A. COUMOUNDOUROS.
D. CALLIFRONAS.
D. MAVROMICHALIS.
B. C. NICOLOPOULOS.

Le Secrétaire-Général,

N. A. CHATZOPOULOS.

Décret concernant l'Election des Représentants de la Nation.

ROYAUME DE GRECE.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire.

Sur l'avis du Conseil des Ministres Secrétaires d'Etat et sur la proposition du Ministre de l'Intérieur, nous décrétons :—

Article 1. Les dispositions de la Loi du 30 Mars, 1844, concernant l'élection des Députés, sont également en vigueur pour l'élection des représentants, en tant qu'elles ne sont pas modifiées par les dispositions suivantes.

Art. 2. Le nombre des représentants à élire dans chaque province pour l'Assemblée Nationale sera double de celui des Députés déterminé dans le § 2 de l'Article 1 de la Loi du 30 Mars, 1844.

Art. 3. Il sera élu un représentant dans chacune des Colonies ("Groupes Coloniaux") établies à Adamante, à Minoa, et à la Nouvelle Pella, selon les dispositions de la loi.

Art. 4. Les sujets Grecs domiciliés hors du royaume, en quelque endroit que ce soit, éliront un représentant sur une population de cent à mille âmes; ils en éliront deux si la population est de mille à dix mille, et trois si elle dépasse ce dernier nombre.

Les Grecs habitant la même ville, ne formant pas le plus petit nombre déterminé ci-dessus, peuvent se rendre dans une autre ville du même Etat, afin de compléter par leur réunion avec les Grecs domiciliés dans cette ville, le dit nombre requis suivant l'Article ci-dessus, pour élire un représentant.

L'élection des Représentants des sujets Grecs qui habitent à l'étranger aura lieu au Consulat compétent, d'après un Décret qui sera publié à cet effet.

Art. 5. Dans l'espace de cinq jours à partir de celui de la réception du présent Décret, les Sous-Préfets dresseront et enverront au Préfet de la Province une liste exacte et complète des habitants de chaque commune qui ont les qualités déterminées dans l'Article 18 de la Loi du 30 Mars, 1844. Dès que les Préfets auront réunis les listes de toutes les Communes de leur Département, ce qui doit s'effectuer dans l'intervalle de huit jours au plus, à partir de l'expiration du terme de cinq jours ci-dessus mentionné, ils les transmettront dans un tableau sommaire au Président du Tribunal de Première Instance du Département.

Si avant l'envoi de ces listes au Président du Tribunal, des réclamations sont présentées au Préfet au sujet de l'omission d'individus ayant les qualités requises pour être portés sur la liste, ou d'individus qui y auraient été inscrits sans posséder ces qualités, ou qui les auraient perdues, le Préfet, avant l'expiration du terme susdit de huit jours, examine immédiatement ces réclamations, et juge sans appel en motivant sa décision.

Si quelque Sous-Préfet ne fait pas parvenir ponctuellement au Préfet les listes des Communes du ressort de son Arrondissement, le Préfet expédie aussitôt un exprès à la Sous-Prefecture, afin de presser l'envoi des listes. Ces exprès reçoivent par jour une indemnité de cinq à dix drachmes, qui est à la charge du Sous-Préfet, ainsi que les frais de voyage.

Art. 6. Le tirage au sort des Membres de la Commission, d'après l'Article 18 de la Loi du 30 Mars, 1844, a lieu au Tribunal de Première Instance, en séance publique, sous la direction du Président, à la première audience qui suit l'envoi des listes au Président.

Art. 7. Outre le Comité de Surveillance, il y en aura un autre qui sera composé de quatre membres s'il y a deux candidats en concurrence. Ces membres seront nommés en nombre égal de chaque côté par les parties adverses elles-mêmes. Si les candidats en lutte sont plus de deux, alors chacun d'eux désigne un électeur pour le représenter dans le Comité, dont toutefois les membres ne pourront, dans aucun cas, être plus de cinq.

Art. 8. L'urne sera faite, à la diligence du Sous-Prefet et aux frais de la Commune, avec des planches sans nœuds ni trous, et bien jointes ensemble; elle peut aussi être faite en fer blanc, mais le plus épais possible; les parois seront soudés exactement, de manière à ne laisser ni trous ni fente.

Art. 9. L'urne est exposée dans l'endroit fixé pour la votation: elle est posée sur une table placée au milieu du local. Le Comité de Surveillance, ainsi que les membres du Second Comité formée d'après l'Article 7, ne se placeront pas à côté de l'urne, mais à une certaine distance.

Art. 10. Chaque électeur, en entrant dans le lieu où se déposent les suffrages, s'adresse au Président du Comité de Surveillance et lui présente son bulletin. Le Président, après l'avoir examiné au moyen du toucher pour s'assurer qu'il n'est pas double, mais sans l'ouvrir ni le regarder pour apercevoir les noms qui y sont inscrits, y appose son chiffre et le rend au votant, qui s'approche de l'urne placée au milieu de la table et y dépose son suffrage.

Art. 11. Si des doutes sont exprimés sur l'identité et les qualités du votant qui se présente, il suffit que celui-ci affirme son identité ou prouve au moyen de deux témoins qu'il possède les qualités requises par la loi, pour qu'il soit immédiatement admis à voter.

Ceux qui par hasard ne se trouveraient pas portés sur la liste définitive sont de même admis à voter, si deux témoins présentés par eux affirment qu'ils font partie de la commune et qu'ils possèdent les qualités exigées par la Loi du 30 Mars, 1844, et qu'ils ne se trouvent dans aucun des cas d'incapacité prévus par la même Loi.

Les témoins qui affirmeraient des faits faux comme vrais, dans les cas des deux paragraphes précédents, sont poursuivis criminellement et punis suivant l'Article 270 du Code Pénal.

Art. 12. Les Comités formés par les parties adverses, d'après le susdit Article 7, doivent présenter toute opposition, réclamation ou observation qu'elles peuvent avoir à faire, les inscrire dans le procès-verbal de la séance, suivant l'Article 20 de la Loi du 30 Mars, 1844, apposer chaque jour, à la fin de la séance, leurs sceaux sur l'urne, et s'ils le veulent, en imprimer aussi en même temps l'empreinte dans les procès-verbaux, avec une description succincte de l'emblème qu'elle porte, et examiner les sceaux chaque jour à l'ouverture de l'urne, au commencement de la séance.

Art. 13. L'urne ne sort pas du lieu des séances pendant tout le temps de la durée de la votation; et elle ne peut non plus être déplacée de dessus la table où elle a été déposée.

Chaque jour, lorsque la séance est terminée, les procès-verbaux sont placés par le Secrétaire sur la table où se trouve l'urne; tout le monde se retire du lieu des séances, dont les portes sont soigneusement fermées; mais il est sous la sauvegarde du Comité de Surveillance, de celui qui est formé en vertu de l'Article 7 du présent Décret, sous celle de la Garde Nationale et de la force publique. Mais dans les localités où la Garde Nationale n'est pas encore formée, et où il n'y a pas de force publique, chacune des parties adverses placera un nombre égal d'hommes armés pour former la garde.

Art. 14. Les procès-verbaux des séances seront rédigés dans un cahier bien cousu, numéroté, et paraphé par le Sous-Préfet; il aura des colonnes distinctes contenant :—1. Le numéro d'ordre des votants; 2. Leurs noms et prénoms; 3. Le numéro de la liste définitive sous lequel l'électeur est inscrit, ou les signatures des deux témoins qui ont affirmé que la personne admise à donner son suffrage avait les qualités requises pour voter, ou qu'elle était bien celle dont on avait contesté l'identité.

Art. 15. Pour pouvoir être élu représentant d'une province ou d'un groupe colonial, il faut—

1. Etre citoyen Grec établi en Grèce;
2. Etre âgé de vingt-cinq ans accomplis;
3. N'être point soumis aux incapacités déterminées dans le § 2 de l'Article 5 de la Loi du 30 Mars, 1844.

Art. 16. Les délits et les crimes commis pendant les élections sont poursuivis d'office, sans égard à la qualité du délinquant et indépendamment de la validité de l'élection.

Art. 17. La durée des opérations électorales est de quatre jours, dont un doit être un Dimanche.

Mais dans les communes de première classe, les opérations électorales se divisent en sections électorales, suivant ce qui a été réglé à ce sujet par un Décret particulier.

Art. 18. L'ouverture des opérations électorales aura lieu le même jour dans tout l'Etat.

Art. 19. Les professeurs de l'Université élisent un représentant parmi eux ou hors du Corps Universitaire.

Art. 20. Il est défendu que des hommes armés ou portant des instruments offensifs approchent du lieu où se font les opérations électorales. Les auteurs et les complices d'infraction à cette défense seront punis d'un emprisonnement de six mois au moins, et ils seront privés pendant trois ans de leurs droits civils.

Athènes, le 4 Novembre, 1862.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire,

(Signé)

D. G. BOULGARIS, *Président.*

C. CANARIS

Les Ministres Secrétaire d'Etat,

(Signé)

T. MANGHINAS.

Th. A. ZAIMIS.

A. COUMOUNDOUROS.

B. NICOLOPOULOS.

A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

D. CALLIFRONAS.

D. MAVROMICHALIS.

Le Secrétaire-Général,

N. A. CHATSOPoulos.

Gouvernement Provisoire.

Sur la proposition des Ministres de l'Intérieur et des Affaires Etrangères, vu le Décret du 4 Novembre concernant l'élection des représentants de la nation, et sur l'avis du Conseil des Ministres, nous décrétons :—

Article 1. Les Hellènes domiciliés dans la circonscription de chaque Consulat-Général et de chaque Consulat éliront un représentant sur cent à mille âmes ; ils en éliront deux sur mille à dix mille ; et trois, si leur population dépasse dix mille.

Art. 2. Les Consuls-Généraux, les Consuls et les Vice-Consuls, chacun dans leur circonscription, prendront sur la liste des principaux électeurs deux individus désignés par la voie du sort, et dresseront la liste des sujets Grecs jouissant du droit électoral.

Art. 3. La liste susdite sera affichée au Consulat, et il en sera dressé procès-verbal par la Commission mentionnée dans l'Article 2.

Art. 4. Après la publication des listes, les réclamations se font devant un Comité de trois membres, désignés par la voie du sort, et pris dans la liste des électeurs les plus importants, de laquelle auront été rétranchés les noms de ceux qui auront été choisis pour dresser la liste.

Art. 5. La liste reste exposée pendant trois jours. Les réclamations se font à partir du quatrième jour jusqu'au sixième y compris, et elles sont jugées par le jury *ad hoc*, à la pluralité des voix.

Art. 6. Dans l'intervalle de trois jours les listes sont rectifiées, comme il est dit plus haut, par la Commission, et il est formé un Comité de Surveillance, composé de l'autorité Consulaire et de deux membres désignés par la voie du sort et pris parmi les noms restants des électeurs les plus importants ; et trois jours après que la proclamation a été affichée au Consulat, l'ouverture des opérations électorales est proclamée, et il en est dressé procès-verbal.

Art. 7. Dans les Consulats où il n'existe pas de liste des principaux sujets Grecs, il en sera dressé une ; à cet effet, on mettra dans l'urne les noms des vingt-quatre principaux d'entre eux, dont douze seront tirés au sort. S'il n'y a pas vingt-quatre sujets Grecs dans la localité, on met dans l'urne les noms de ceux qui s'y trouvent. Mais s'il y en a moins de douze, l'autorité Consulaire choisit deux membres avec lesquels il dresse la liste de ceux qui ont le droit de suffrage, et il juge les réclamations qui peuvent avoir lieu.

Il choisit deux autres membres, dont il forme le Comité de Surveillance.

Art. 8. La durée des opérations électorales est de quatre jours pour les localités où l'on doit élire plus d'un représentant, et de trois jours dans les autres endroits.

Le vote se fait publiquement ; chaque votant se présente en personne devant le Comité de Surveillance, et écrit de sa propre main son suffrage dans le registre destiné *ad hoc*. Quant aux électeurs qui ne savent pas écrire, ils chargent un autre, devant le Comité de Surveillance, d'écrire à leur place.

Le registre susdit doit être relié, numéroté et paraphé par le Comité de Surveillance. Les pages sont divisées en quatre colonnes ; dans la première, chaque votant écrit le numéro d'ordre, dans la deuxième son nom et prénom dans la troisième, le nom et le prénom du candidat, dans la quatrième l'électeur ou son fondé de pouvoirs met sa signature.

Chaque jour après la clôture de la séance, le registre où sont consignés les suffrages est clos par un procès-verbal du Comité de Surveillance, dans lequel est inscrit le nombre des électeurs qui ont voté jusqu'à ce jour.

Art. 9. Après la clôture du vote il est procédé au dépouillement du scrutin par le Comité de Surveillance, qui dans les Consulats-Généraux et les Consulats n'ayant pas de Vice-Consulats dans leur ressort, fait connaître au candidat élu le résultat du dépouillement du scrutin ; mais dans les Consulat-Généraux et les Consulats qui ont dans leurs ressorts des Vice-Consulats, devant lesquels ont été faites les opérations électorales, chaque Comité de Surveillance fait, de son côté, le dépouillement du scrutin, en envoie le résultat au Consulat-Général ou au Consulat compétent ; et le Comité de Surveillance qui y siège réunit les résultats du dépouillement du scrutin de toutes les Commissions, il en fait le relevé, et notifie le résultat général au candidat élu.

Art. 10. Le tirage au sort des Comités se fait publiquement, et chaque fois, tous les principaux sujets Grecs y sont invités.

Art. 11. Les Consuls-Généraux, les Consuls, les Vice-Consuls et les employés Consulaires ne peuvent être élus dans le ressort de l'endroit où ils font leur service.

Art. 12. Les procès-verbaux des opérations électorales sont envoyés au Ministère de l'Intérieur et sont accompagnés de la liste des sujets Grecs domiciliés dans le ressort de chaque Consulat-Général ou simple Consulat, laquelle doit désigner leurs familles et les

membres dont chacune d'elle se compose. Cette liste est revue par les Vice-Consuls compétents.

Art. 13. Pour tout ce qui n'est pas prévu spécialement dans le présent Décret, on fera l'application des dispositions du Décret du ^{23 Octobre}_{4 Novembre} et de la Loi du 30 Mars, 1844, qui y sont relatives.

Athènes, le ^{31 Octobre}_{12 Novembre} 1862.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire,
(Signé) D. G. BOULGARIS, *Président*.
C. CANARIS.

Les Ministres,
(Signé) A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.
T. MANGHINAS.
A. COUMOUNDOUROS.
TH. ZAIMIS.
D. CALLIFRONAS.
D. MAVROMICHALIS.
C. NICOLOPOULOS.

ROYAUME DE GRECE.

Les Ministres de l'Intérieur et de la Guerre.

Vu le Décret sous le No. 4 du Gouvernement Provisoire, relatif à l'organisation provisoire de la garde nationale d'Athènes et du Pirée, nous ordonnons :—

1. L'organisation des volontaires se fera par quartier en prenant pour base la loi sur la garde nationale, mais seulement jusqu'aux pelotons dont la force se composera d'un commandant, de deux caporaux, et de 20 à 30 gardes nationaux.

2. Les commandants et les caporaux des pelotons seront nommés par les Commissions chargées de l'organisation des volontaires.

3. Les commandants et les caporaux des pelotons du corps des étudiants de l'Université seront de même nommés par la Commission d'Athènes.

4. La distribution des armes aux gardes nationaux, aux caporaux et aux commandants des pelotons, sera faite par les Commissions de chaque commune : chacun en recevant son arme, de l'entretien de laquelle il est responsable, signera comme l'ayant reçu, dans la colonne des observations des matricules qui doivent être établies.

5. La garde nationale de la capitale est placée sous les ordres du commandement militaire d'Athènes, et elle fait le service qui lui est ordonné par ce commandement. Celle du Pirée est sous les ordres du commandant de place de cette ville.

6. L'appel à un service, soit de la part du commandement militaire, soit de celle du commandant de place du Pirée, est envoyé au commandant du peloton.

7. Les gardes nationaux, dès qu'ils reçoivent l'ordre de leur commandant, doivent se réunir sous les armes et se mettre sous ses ordres ; et aussitôt qu'ils ont terminé leur service, ils doivent de même, sur l'ordre de leur commandant, se séparer, et déposer chacun leur arme dans l'endroit où peut l'ordonner le commandement militaire ou le commandant du Pirée.

Art. 8. Chaque commandant d'un peloton de gardes nationaux, dès qu'il reçoit un appel de la part des autorités compétentes, suivant l'Article 5, doit rassembler les gardes nationaux qui sont sous son commandement, et agir suivant les ordres qui lui ont été donnés ; et aussitôt que le service dont il a été chargé est terminé, il doit de même, d'après le même Article, ordonner aux gardes nationaux de séparer et de déposer leurs armes.

Art. 9. La garde nationale ne peut pas se rassembler ni prendre les armes sans l'appel prescrit par l'Article 4.

Art. 10. Chaque commandant d'un peloton établira une matricule, par lettres alphabétiques, des gardes nationaux sous ses ordres ; et il les appellera à leur service à tour de rôle.

Art. 11. Le pouvoir disciplinaire sur les gardes nationaux et les caporaux appartient aux commandants des pelotons. Elle consiste—1, à être réprimandé ; 2, à être rayé du rôle avec retrait de l'arme.

Art. 12. Le commandement militaire d'Athènes et le commandant de place du Pirée ont le même pouvoir disciplinaire sur les commandants de pelotons.

Athènes, le 24 Octobre, 1862.

Le Ministre de l'Intérieur,
(Signé) TH. ZAIMIS.
Le Ministre de la Guerre,
D. MAVROMICHALIS.

ROYAUME DE GRECE.

Le Président du Gouvernement Provisoire.

Voulant perpétuer le souvenir de la nuit du 22 au 23 Octobre, pendant laquelle le peuple et l'armée ont triomphé contre la dynastie déchue, comme un jour solennel d'allégresse nationale, sur la proposition du Conseil des Ministres, nous décrétons—

Le jour du 23 Octobre, 1862, qui promet un brillant avenir pour la nation Hellénique, est consacré comme un jour de fête nationale.

Athènes, le 25 Octobre, 1862.

(Signé)

D. G. BOULGARIS, *Président.*

C. CANARIS.

B. ROUFFOS.

Les Ministres Secrétaires d'Etat,

(Signé)

TH. ZAIMIS.

T. MANGHINAS.

EP. DELIGEORGIS.

D. CALLIFRONAS.

A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

B. C. NICOLOPOULOS.

A. COUMOUNDOUROS.

D. MAVROMICHALIS.

ROYAUME DE GRECE.

Le Président du Gouvernement Provisoire.

Nous décrétons que tous les employés de l'Etat feront le serment suivant :—

“Je jure de garder fidélité à la patrie, obéissance aux lois de l'Etat et au Gouvernement Provisoire, et de remplir avec honneur et conscience la charge qui m'est confiée.”

Athènes, le 23 Octobre, 1862.

Le Président,
(Signé)

D. G. BOULGARIS.

Les Ministres Secrétaires d'Etat,

(Signé)

T. MANGHINAS.

D. CALLIFRONAS.

TH. ZAIMIS.

D. MAVROMICHALIS.

A. COUMOUNDOUROS.

A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

E. DELIGEORGIS.

B. C. NICOLOPOULOS.

Le Secrétaire-Général,

N. A. CHATZOPOULOS.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire de Grèce,

Vu la nécessité d'assurer les droits particuliers des citoyens dans le changement qui a eu lieu au sujet des affaires publiques, décrète—

Tous les termes légaux et judiciaires sont suspendus à partir du 15 Octobre jusqu'au 1 Novembre.

Les Ministres compétents sont chargés de l'exécution du présent Décret.

Athènes, le 28 Octobre, 1862.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire,

Le Président,
(Signé)

D. G. BOULGARIS.

C. CANARIS.

B. ROUFFOS.

Les Ministres Secrétaires d'Etat,

(Signé)

D. CALLIFRONAS.

A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

B. C. NICOLOPOULOS.

E. DELIGEORGIS.

D. MAVROMICHALIS.

TH. A. ZAIMIS.

A. COUMOUNDOUROS.

ROYAUME DE GRECE.

Le Président du Gouvernement Provisoire.

Une décision nationale ayant déclaré le Roi Othon déchu du trône de la Grèce, nous décrétons que tous les actes, toutes les décisions qui étaient promulgués au nom du Roi seront désormais promulgués au nom de la nation.

Le Ministre de la Justice est chargé de la publication et l'exécution du présent Décret.

Le Président,
(Signé) D. G. BOULGARIS.

Le Ministre de la Justice,
(Signé) A. COUMOUNDOUROS.
Le Secrétaire-Général,
N. A. CHATZOPOULOS.

Décret concernant le Serment de l'Armée.

ROYAUME DE GRECE.

Gouvernement Provisoire.

Le nouvel ordre de choses exigeant le changement du serment de l'armée,
Après avoir entendu l'avis des Ministres Secrétaires d'Etat nous décrétons,

Tout militaire doit prêter le serment suivant :—

“ Je jure de garder fidélité à la patrie, obéissance au Gouvernement Provisoire et à ses décisions, soumission à mes supérieurs ; d'exécuter avec empressement et sans examen leurs ordres, de défendre le drapeau avec fidélité et dévouement jusqu'à verser la dernière goutte de mon sang, de ne jamais l'abandonner et de ne jamais m'en séparer ; d'observer exactement les lois militaires et de vivre en fidèle et honorable soldat.

Athènes, le 29 Octobre, 1862.

Le Président du Gouvernement,
(Signé) D. G. BOULGARIS.
C. CANARIS.
B. ROUFFOS.

Les Ministres Secrétaires de l'Etat,
(Signé) T. MANGHINAS,
&c. &c.

Le Secrétaire-Général,
N. A. CHATZOPOULOS.

ROYAUME DE GRECE.

Le Président du Gouvernement Provisoire.

Sur la proposition du Ministre de la Guerre nous nommons le chef de bataillon D. Tringuetta Gouverneur Militaire du Palais.

Le Ministre de la Guerre est chargé de l'exécution de la présente.

Athènes, le 23 Octobre, 1862.

Le Président,
(Signé) D. G. BOULGARIS.

Le Ministre de la Guerre,
(Signé) D. MAVROMICHALIS.
Le Secrétaire-Général,
N. A. CHATZOPOULOS.

Décret concernant le traitement du Président et des autres membres du Gouvernement Provisoire, et du Secrétaire Général.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire, sur la proposition du Conseil des Ministres, décrète—
Le traitement du Président du Gouvernement Provisoire est fixé à deux mille drachmes,

celui de chacun des deux autres membres à quinze cents drachmes, et celui du Secrétaire Général à quatre cent quatre-vingt drachmes, par mois.

Athènes, le 13 Novembre, 1862.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire,

(Signé)

D. G. BOULGARIS, *Président.*

C. CANARIS.

Les Ministres Secrétaires d'Etat,

(Signé)

TH. ZAIMIS.

A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

A. COUMOUNDOUROS.

D. CALLIFRONAS.

B. C. NICOLOPOULOS.

T. MANGHINAS.

D. MAVROMICHALIS.

Le Secrétaire-Général,

N. A. CHATZOPOULOS.

Vu et scellé du grand sceau de l'Etat.

Athènes, le 13 Novembre, 1862.

Le Ministre de la Justice,

(Signé)

A. COUMOUNDOUROS.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire.

Après avoir pris l'avis du Conseil des Ministres Secrétaires d'Etat, et sur la proposition du Ministre de la Justice, nous décrétons :—

Art. 1. La mort civile avec tous les effets est abolie.

Art. 2. Dès que la sentence définitive est publiée, l'individu condamné à la peine de mort ou aux fers à perpétuité est en état d'interdiction légale. Les dispositions du Code de Procédure Criminelle relatives aux effets de la condamnation à toute autre peine infamante sont également appliquées à son égard.

Art. 3. Les dispositions des Articles ci-dessus s'appliquent également à ceux qui ont été condamnés à mort ou aux fers à perpétuité avant la publication du présent Décret, sans préjudice aux droits des tiers.

Art. 4. Le paragraphe 2 de l'Article 1 de la Loi du 10 Juillet, 1846, l'Article du Code Pénal, et l'Article 468 du Code de Procédure Criminelle, de même que toute autre disposition contraire au présent Décret, sont rapportés.

Le Ministre de la Justice est chargé de la publication et de l'exécution du présent Décret.

Athènes, le 12 Novembre, 1862.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire,

(Signé)

D. G. BOULGARIS, *Président.*

C. CANARIS.

Les Ministres Secrétaires d'Etat,

(Signé)

TH. A. ZAIMIS.

D. CALLIFRONAS.

D. MAVROMICHALIS.

&c.

&c.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire.

Après avoir pris l'avis du Conseil des Ministres Secrétaires d'Etat, et sur la proposition du Ministre de l'Intérieur, nous décrétons :—

Jusqu'à ce qu'il soit publié une loi qui détermine définitivement le serment du citoyen Grec, ceux qui ont acquis par la naturalisation le droit de nationalité Grecque, feront le serment suivant :

“ Je jure de garder fidélité à la patrie et obéissance au Gouvernement Provisoire et aux lois du royaume, et de vivre en bon et fidèle citoyen.”

Le Ministre de l'Intérieur est chargé de la publication et de l'exécution du présent Décret,

Athènes, le 29 Octobre, 1862.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire,
(Signé) D. G. BOULGARIS, *Président.*
C. CANARIS.

Les Ministres Secrétaires d'Etat,
(Signé) TH. A. ZAIMIS.
T. MANGHINAS.
D. CALLIFRONAS.
A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.
B. NICOLOPOULOS.
A. COUMOUNDOUROS.
D. MAVROMICHALIS.
Le Secrétaire-Général,
N. A. CHATSOPoulos.

ROYAUME DE GRECE.

Gouvernement Provisoire.

Sur l'avis du Conseil des Ministres, nous déchargeons tous les accusés et les condamnés pour délits politiques, des poursuites ou des peines qu'ils avaient encourues sous le système déchu.

Nous ordonnons à toutes les autorités civiles et militaires de leur notifier sans délai le présent Décret, et de leur prêter toute assistance dont ils pourraient avoir besoin.

Athènes, le 24 Octobre, 1862.

Le Président,
(Signé) D. G. BOULGARIS.

Les Ministres Secrétaires d'Etat,
(Signé) T. MANGHINAS.
TH. A. ZAIMIS.
A. COUMOUNDOUROS.
B. C. NICOLOPOULOS.
D. CALLIFRONAS.
A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.
A. DELIGEORGIS.
D. MAVROMICHALIS.
Le Secrétaire-Général,
N. A. CHATZOPoulos.

Décret.

ROYAUME DE GRECE.

Gouvernement Provisoire.

Sur la proposition du Conseil des Ministres, la garde nationale d'Athènes et du Pirée est formée, pour le moment et jusqu'à la mise en exécution de la loi concernant son organisation, de citoyens de bonne volonté.

Les Ministres de l'Intérieur et de la Guerre sont chargés de l'exécution du présent Décret.

Le Président,
(Signé) D. G. BOULGARIS.

Les Ministres Secrétaires d'Etat,
(Signé) T. MANGHINAS.
TH. A. ZAIMIS.
A. COUMOUNDOUROS.
B. NICOLOPOULOS.
D. CALLIFRONAS.
A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.
E. DELIGEORGIS.
D. MAVROMICHALIS.
Le Secrétaire-Général,
N. A. CHATZOPoulos.

ROYAUME DE GRECE.

Le Saint Synode de l'Eglise de Grèce à tous les Chrétiens Pieux Orthodoxes du Royaume.
Dieu veille sur la Grèce.

Dans ses décrets impénétrables la Divine Providence, en réglant les choses humaines a daigné sauver son peuple bien aimé dans la révolution mémorable du 22 du présent mois d'Octobre. Glorifions son saint nom, et levant nos mains suppliantes au ciel, invoquons son assistance pour la prospérité de la Grèce.

Mais pour que nos prières et nos vœux soient agréés de Dieu, nous devons par des œuvres Chrétiennes nous rendre dignes de son amour. C'est pourquoi, nos chers enfants en Jésus Christ, éloignons de nous toute inimitié, toute querelle, toute cupidité, et toute injustice; faisons régner en nous la charité, la concorde, l'abnégation et la justice; car c'est par de telles vertus que toute tentation de Satan reste vaine, et que l'on obtient tout ce qui est bon et salutaire.

Respectons les lois de la patrie, parce que ce sont elles qui sauvegardent les droits de chaque citoyen, et qui maintiennent les sociétés. Respect et obéissance aux autorités de l'Etat, car tout pouvoir vient de Dieu, suivant le saint apôtre, et c'est par les autorités que les lois sont mises en exécution, que l'ordre est maintenu, et que nos actions atteignent la fin désirée.

Par cette conduite nous nous rendons agréables à Dieu; et si nous invoquons avec ferveur le secours d'en haut, nous l'obtiendrons. Que la grâce de Dieu, la charité, la paix et la justice soit toujours avec nous. Ainsi soit-il.

Athènes, le 27 Octobre, 1862.

(Signé)

† THEOPHILOS, Archevêque d'Athènes, Président.

† GERASIMOS, Archevêque de l'Argolide.

† KALLINICOS, Archevêque de la Phthotide.

† PROCOPIOS, Evêque d'Octyle.

† NEOPHITE, Evêque d'Hydra et de Spelsia.

Faits Divers.

Par Décret du Gouvernement Provisoire du 23 Octobre, M. Th. Delyanni a été nommé Secrétaire-Général au Ministère de l'Intérieur en remplacement de M. Antonopoulos, appelé à d'autres fonctions.

Par un Décret de la même date ont été destitués M. Scoufos, Maire d'Athènes et M. J. Santorinaios, adjoint.

Par Décret du Gouvernement le Général Spiromilios et le Lieutenant-Colonel d'Artillerie Botzaris ont été mis en non-activité.

Par Décret du 31 Octobre le General G. Caratjas, jusqu'à ce moment Inspecteur-Général de l'Infanterie et Gouverneur de l'Ecole Militaire a été également mis en non-activité.

Par divers Décrets du Gouvernement Provisoire ont été ouverts les crédits extraordinaires et supplémentaires suivants :

1. 9,500 drachmes destinés à indemniser divers sujets étrangers qui ont subi des pertes dans la révolution du 22 au 23 Octobre.

2. 12,000 drachmes pour frais de bureau du Gouvernement Provisoire jusqu'à la fin de la présente année.

3. 133,687 drachmes imputées au Chapitre G (Mesures Générales de Sûreté) du Ministère de l'Intérieur.

4. 200,000 drachmes imputés au chapitre des pensions militaires.

5. 40,000 drachmes pour secours momentanés à diverses personnes indigentes et à des familles qui méritent l'assistance du Gouvernement; et

6. 3,810 drachmes imputés au Ministère de l'Instruction Publique.

Le Lieutenant-Colonel d'Artillerie M. Panos Corronéos a été nommé Commandant de la Garde Nationale d'Athènes et de celle du Pirée.

Le Gouvernement a exprimé ses remerciements aux Commissions Administratives Locales qui ont été établies dans toutes les parties de la Grèce, pour la conduite patriotique qu'elles ont montrée en remplissant les fonctions qui leur avaient été confiées.

M. Rouffos, membre du Gouvernement Provisoire, ayant été chargé d'une mission extraordinaire à l'intérieur, M. Stamos D. Macris a été nommé son Secrétaire-Général.

Le brave Lieutenant N. Macris, un des chefs de l'insurrection de Février, est de retour de l'étranger.

Par Décret en date du 6 Novembre, le Gouvernement Provisoire a ordonné, à l'occasion de la mort du Général Th. Grivas, un deuil de cinq jours à tous les employés civils et aux officiers de l'armée de terre et de mer.

Le Lieutenant d'Artillerie M. Panos Colocotronis a été nommé Préfet de Police d'Athènes et du Pirée.

Par un Décret du Gouvernement Provisoire ont été remis en activité tous les officiers qui avaient été mis en non-activité par le Gouvernement déchu.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire, sur la proposition du Ministre de la Guerre, a rendu à M. Jean Macrygianni son grade de Général de la Phalange, avec la jouissance de tous les droits qui y sont attachés et desquels il jouissait avant que ce grade lui eut été retiré.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire a, par Décret, exprimé ses remerciements à Madame Hellène Tossitsa et à M. A. Manaki pour le don patriotique d'une forte somme qui doit être consacrée à l'habillement des étudiants de l'Université, organisés en gardes nationaux.

Tous les Préfets et les Sous-Préfets du Gouvernement déchu ont été destitués et remplacés par de nouveaux.

On lit dans le journal "l'Avenir de l'Orient :"—

"Hier est arrivée ici la nouvelle très importante que le Prince Alfred, deuxième fils de la Reine d'Angleterre, va se rendre à Corfou avec une brillante et nombreuse suite. D'un autre côté, une dépêche télégraphique du Ministre des Affaires Etrangères au Ministre Anglais, M. Scarlett, annonce que la volonté du Gouvernement Anglais est que le choix du Prince par l'Assemblée Nationale ne soit point influencé et qu'il ne soit mis obstacle à aucune manifestation en faveur de quelque Prince que ce soit."

M. Saripolos est nommé Professeur de Droit Constitutionnel à l'Université.

La plus grande tranquillité règne dans tout le royaume.

No. 82.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received December 2.)

My Lord,

Athens, November 22, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship, herewith, a translation of the Decree of the Provisional Government of Greece, fixing the 6th of December next as the day on which the elections for the National Assembly are to commence.

In a circular forwarding this Decree to the Nomarchs for publication, the Provisional Government state that they reserve to themselves to issue further instructions respecting the mode of voting and of ascertaining the result.

The elections, therefore, will begin this day fortnight, and will last four days.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

Inclosure in No. 82.

Circular addressed by the Provisional Government to the Nomarchs.

KINGDOM OF GREECE.

The Minister of the Interior to the Nomarchs of the State.

(Translation.)

BY the present I communicate to you copy of the Government Decree fixing the date on which the voting is to commence, with instructions to publish it in the most public way in all parts of the province under your jurisdiction.

The instructions regarding the mode of voting, and of ascertaining the result, I shall let you have shortly,

Athens, November $\frac{8}{20}$, 1862.

The Minister,
(Signed) TH. A. ZAIMIS.

(Countersigned) A. THETALIDES.

Decree.

KINGDOM OF GREECE.

The Provisional Government.

Having before us the 18th Article of the Decree relating to the election of the Plenipotentiaries of the nation;

In conformity with the proposition of the Minister of the Interior, we fix on the 24th November 1862, as the day on which the voting is to commence.
6th December 7

The Minister of the Interior shall publish and execute the present Decree.

Athens, November 17, 1862.

The Provisional Government,

(Signed)

D. G. BOULGARIS, *President*

C. CANARIS.

M. ROUFOS.

The Minister of the Interior,

TH. A. ZAIMIS.

No. 83.

Baron Brunnow to Earl Russell.—(Received December 2.)

M. le Comte,

Chesham House, le 2 Décembre, 1862.

LES directions de ma Cour confirment en entier les explications que j'ai eu l'honneur d'offrir à votre Excellence confidentiellement.

Elles m'autorisent à vous donner la certitude que l'éventualité de voir Monseigneur le Duc de Leuchtenberg appelé au Trône Hellénique ne s'accorde point avec les intentions de ma Cour.

Je suis chargé, en même temps, de vous réitérer l'assurance que le Cabinet Impérial est prêt à délibérer, de concert avec le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique et avec le Cabinet des Tuileries, sur une candidature qui remplirait les conditions désirables pour obtenir l'adhésion unanime des trois Puissances dont les efforts réunis ont contribué, en commun, à fonder l'existence du Royaume Hellénique et à garantir son indépendance.

J'ai, &c.

(Signé) BRUNNOW.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Chesham House, December 2, 1862.

THE orders of my Court entirely confirm the explanations which I have had the honour to offer to your Excellency confidentially.

They authorize me to assure you that the possibility of seeing the Duke of Leuchtenberg called to the Greek Throne is not in accordance with the intentions of my Court.

I am directed, at the same time, to renew the assurance that the Imperial Cabinet is ready to deliberate, in concert with the Government of Her Britannic Majesty and with the Cabinet of the Tuileries, on a candidature which will fulfil the necessary conditions for obtaining the unanimous adhesion of the three Powers whose united efforts have contributed, in common, to found the existence of the Hellenic kingdom, and to guarantee its independence.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BRUNNOW.

No. 84.

*Earl Russell to Earl Cowley.**

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, December 3, 1862.

BARON BRUNNOW, the Ambassador of Russia at this Court, came to me on the 29th ultimo at the Foreign Office, and pointed out that the "Annuaire Diplomatique," printed at St. Petersburg, is stated by a note at the beginning, in the Russian language, which the Baron had the goodness to translate, to be published (or printed) by authority of the Russian Foreign Office, and this statement is authenticated by the signature of the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. He stated strongly his own conviction that no doubt could exist that the Duke of Leuchtenberg is a member of the Imperial Family.

In fact the Princes Romanoffsky having been brought up at St. Petersburg, their property in Bavaria having been sold, and their name being no longer that of their grandfather's family, but a name derived from that of Romanow, the name of the family reigning in Russia, he must be considered entirely Russian.

* Similar despatches were addressed to Lord Napier and Mr. Scarlett.

The presentation of an official note to Prince Gortchakoff, as directed by my telegram to Lord Napier of the 1st instant, will, I trust, lay this question at rest.

Still the long delay which took place, the doubtful language of Prince Gortchakoff when Lord Napier asked whether the Duke of Leuchtenberg belonged to the Imperial Family, and other circumstances, give rise to the suspicion that the intention of Russia has been, all along, in the first place, to exclude Prince Alfred, and, in the second place, to support the Prince Romanoffsky as the choice of Greece; or, at all events, Prince Alfred being removed from the scene, without any corresponding stipulation on the part of Russia, Prince Romanoffsky might then have been put forward with every chance of success.

This surmise is confirmed by a passage in the letter of Mr. Scarlett, in which he informs me that, having stated to Count Bloudoff, the Russian Minister at Athens, that it seemed to be my opinion that if Prince Alfred was excluded by Treaty engagements, so was also the Duke of Leuchtenberg, Count Bloudoff replied that he should like to be instructed on this point; that "juridically" he did not consider the Duke excluded by the terms of the Protocol, though politically he might be so.

The "juridical" doubt raised by Prince Gortchakoff, and repeated by Count Bloudoff, seems at length to have been resolved by the unbought popularity of Prince Alfred, and the determination of the British Government that the Protocol should not hold good for excluding an English Prince, and be deemed invalid for excluding a Russian.

P.S.—The question to which this despatch refers has been settled this day by an exchange of notes between Baron Brunnow and myself.

No. 85.

Baron Brunnow to Earl Russell.—(Received December 4.)

*Londres, le 22 Novembre
4 Décembre, 1862.*

LE Soussigné, Ambassadeur Extraordinaire et Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, a eu l'honneur d'annoncer à son Excellence M. le Comte Russell, Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique ayant le Département des Affaires Etrangères, que la Cour Impériale de Russie maintient dans toute sa force et valeur l'engagement en vertu duquel les membres des trois familles régnantes en France, en Angleterre, et en Russie, sont exclus du Trône Hellénique.

En conséquence de cet engagement, il est mutuellement convenu de déclarer nulle et non avenue l'élection de Son Altesse Impériale Monseigneur le Prince Romanoffski, Duc de Leuchtenberg, neveu de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, de même que de celle de Son Altesse Royale Monseigneur le Prince Alfred, fils de Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, dans le cas où l'un ou l'autre de ces Princes serait appelé au Trône Hellénique par l'expression d'un vœu de la nation Grecque.

Le Soussigné, &c.

(Signé) BRUNNOW.

(Translation.)

*London, November 22
December 4, 1862.*

THE Undersigned, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, has had the honour to announce to his Excellency Earl Russell, Principal Secretary of State of Her Britannic Majesty, holding the Department of Foreign Affairs, that the Imperial Court of Russia maintains, in all its force and value, the engagement in virtue of which the Members of the three families reigning in France, in England, and in Russia, are excluded from the Hellenic Throne.

In consequence of this engagement, it is mutually agreed to declare as null and void the election of His Imperial Highness Prince Romanoffsky, Duke of Leuchtenberg, nephew of His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, as well as that of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred, son of Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in case either one or the other of these Princes should be called to the Hellenic Throne by the vote of the Greek nation.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) BRUNNOW.

*Earl Russell to Baron Brunnnow.**Foreign Office, December 4, 1862.*

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note of his Excellency the Baron de Brunnnow, &c., dated this day; and he has the honour to announce to his Excellency in reply, that he has received the commands of Her Majesty to declare that the engagement in virtue of which the members of the three families reigning in Great Britain, in France, and in Russia, are excluded from the throne of Greece, is held by Her Majesty's Government to be in full force and vigour.

In consequence of this engagement, it is mutually agreed to declare as null and void the election of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred, son of Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, as well as that of his Imperial Highness Prince Romanoffsky, Monseigneur the Duke of Leuchtenberg, nephew of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, in case either of these Princes should be called to the throne of Greece by the vote of the Greek nation.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

RUSSELL.

Earl Russell to Mr. Scarlett.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 4, 1862.

I HAVE to instruct you to express to M. Diamantopoulos the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at the promise given by the Provisional Government that compensation shall be made to Mr. Hall, in consideration of the recent destruction of his property, as reported in your despatch of the 29th ultimo.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

RUSSELL.

Earl Russell to Mr. Scarlett.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 4, 1862.

YOU will propose to your colleagues of France and Russia to make a declaration of an unofficial, but binding, nature to the Provisional Government of Greece to this effect:—

“Great Britain, France, and Russia hold themselves bound by the engagement that no member of the Imperial and Royal Families reigning in either of the three States should accept or wear the Crown of Greece: consequently neither His Royal Highness Prince Alfred, a member of the Royal Family of England, nor His Imperial Highness the Prince Romanoffsky, Duke of Leuchtenberg, a member of the Imperial Family of Russia, could accept the Crown of Greece if offered by the Greek nation.”

It would be most conducive to the belief of union among the three Powers if a joint note to this effect were signed by the Representatives of the three Powers.

But if this is not practicable, a separate note should be signed by you with regard to Prince Alfred, by the Russian Minister in regard to the Duke of Leuchtenberg, and by the French Minister in regard to the Imperial Family of France.

With the exception of the names and titles of the Powers excluded, in respect to which Great Britain and Russia would name their own Princes, these three notes ought to be identical in their terms.

You will let me know, by telegraph, if any deviation from these instructions is proposed.

You will not agree to any such deviation without instructions from Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

RUSSELL.

No. 89.

*Earl Russell to Mr. Scarlett.**

Sir

Foreign Office, December 4, 1862.

WITH reference to my previous despatch of this day's date,† I inclose, for your information, copies of the notes which have been exchanged between Baron Brunnow and myself in regard to the exclusion, respectively, from the Throne of Greece of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred, and of His Imperial Highness the Prince Romanoffsky, Duke of Leuchtenberg.‡

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 90.

Earl Russell to Mr. Scarlett.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 4, 1862.

IT is my intention to see M. Tricoupi to-day, and while I explain to him the course which Her Majesty's Government, determined to act in good faith and desirous to maintain the peace of Europe, have thought it their duty to adopt, I shall also state to him that Her Majesty's cordial wishes for the prosperity of Greece have been strengthened by the occurrences which have taken place since the withdrawal of King Otho.

The spontaneous and unexpected demonstrations which have taken place in Greece in favour of Prince Alfred are an honourable tribute of respect, at once to the high character of his Royal Parents, and the free institutions which are the glory of the British nation.

Such a testimony cannot fail to inspire the Queen and her subjects with increased regard and friendship for the people of Greece.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 91.

*Earl Russell to the Marquis de Cadore.**Foreign Office, December 4, 1862.*

EARL RUSSELL presents his compliments to the Marquis of Cadore, and has the honour to inclose copies of notes which have been exchanged this day between his Excellency Baron Brunnow and himself.

Lord Russell requests the Marquis of Cadore to accept, &c.

No. 92.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received December 6.)

(Extract.)

Athens, November 24, 1862.

YOUR Lordship is aware that on account of the uncertainty hanging over the question of a successor to the throne of King Otho, and more especially since I received a telegram from your Lordship (dated the 16th of November) directing me "not to interfere at all in election of the King," but to leave them "to choose whom they like," I have in my position here maintained the necessary reserve on that important subject. When informed previously that a demonstration was likely to occur in front of the Legation, in order not to give umbrage to any of my colleagues, I purposely left the house, and by my language deprecated the intention of the Greeks to make any manifestation of this kind before my residence, thinking it might have the effect of compromising Her Majesty's Mission, and causing a false construction to be placed on the neutral line of conduct I had determined to adopt.

In the course of Saturday, the 22nd instant, I was informed by M. Tricoupi that on Sunday a demonstration would in all probability occur before the Legation, which he said the Provisional Government had no power to prevent.

* Similar despatches were addressed to Earl Cowley and Lord Napier.

† No. 88.

‡ Nos. 85 and 86.

On Saturday evening, after I had dined at home, I was informed by several gentlemen who came in to see me, that a demonstration was actually even then gathering in the streets, and on its way to my house.

In about twenty minutes after, not less than 2,000 persons, consisting many of them of students and professors, and the most respectable townspeople, with a few cavalry and infantry, assembled in the space in front of the Legation, crying out, "Long live Prince Alfred, the future King of Greece!" As the crowd showed no intention of retiring from their position, I opened the window and stepped out on the balcony, where I was received with the greatest possible enthusiasm; the portrait of His Royal Highness was exhibited to me from the roof of a carriage in the centre of the procession, the people bore aloft lighted torches, and Bengal lights were burnt to render the scene more imposing.

As soon as silence was restored I shortly thanked them all, in English, for the honour they had done to His Royal Highness, and expressed the sympathy I felt for the Greek nation. I asked a Greek gentleman, M. Bondouris, who had just come into the house, to translate the words I had used, which were well received; and they went away loudly cheering.

I was greatly surprised about half-an-hour after this to find the whole mass of people again before my windows, vociferating as loudly as before.

I hesitated at first to take any further part in this proceeding, but as the crowd remained before the house shouting for me, I again appeared on the balcony.

I was then addressed by Captain Petimeza, in command of the Artillery, who was on horseback, and was informed that he was deputed by the Greeks to make me a formal request that I would be the bearer of their sincere and unanimous wish to have Prince Alfred, the second son of Queen Victoria, for their King.

To this I replied that I was not authorized to give them an answer on this matter, but that they might rest assured of the great sympathy of England towards Greece.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of the words that were spoken on the occasion.

Yesterday, Sunday, a still larger demonstration appeared about 3 o'clock before the British Legation, consisting not only of the same people, but also of a large number of persons who had come up on purpose from the Piræus to Athens to take part in the ceremony.

On a platform placed on the top of a carriage were displayed on this occasion, not only the portrait of Prince Alfred, but also those of Her Majesty the Queen, the Emperor of Russia, and the Emperor of the French. The crowd was fully as orderly and well-conducted as that of the preceding evening. Nearly the same proceedings took place; I was addressed in the same manner, and spoke on this occasion to the same effect, adding that I felt bound to continue my reserve with regard to the name of Prince Alfred, whose acceptance of the Throne of Greece depended on considerations which I was unable then to determine.

Mr. Merlin, Her Majesty's Vice-Consul, who was with me at the time on the balcony, translated to them in Greek the substance of what I said. I wrote the words down directly afterwards, and have the honour to inclose herewith a copy of them, as well as of the words used by M. Triantophilis, an ex-professor of the University and a lawyer, who was their spokesman on the occasion.

Simultaneously with the occurrence of these events at Athens, similar demonstrations appear to have taken place in almost every other part of Greece.

At Lamia, the town and garrison proclaimed Prince Alfred King with a salute of 121 guns. At Syra, Hydra, Nauplia and Spezzia, Calamaki, Calavrita, and Tripolitza, most enthusiastic manifestations were made in His Royal Highness' favour.

Yesterday M. Diamantopoulos, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, called upon me. When alluding to these events he said that there was a project on foot for electing Prince Alfred by a plébiscite before his election by the Assembly, and that registers would be opened in the different districts for recording the votes by universal suffrage.

P.S.—Since writing the above I have received from Mr. Neale, Her Majesty's Consul at the Piræus, the words of a speech he addressed to a crowd who assembled in front of the Consulate to express, by a similar demonstration to that which was taking place at Athens, their desire to have Prince Alfred as King of Greece. Of this speech I have now the honour to inclose a copy.

Inclosure 1 in No. 92.

*Mr. Scarlett's Reply to the first Deputation.**Athens, November 22, 1862.*

I THANK you for the sympathy you express for the nation I have the honour to represent.

Inclosure 2 in No. 92.

Speech of M. Petimeza.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre,

Athens, November 22, 1862.

UNANIMOUSLY chosen by the population of the capital to express to your Excellency their most pure and warmest desire, I say—

1. The population of the capital makes known that it is desirous to see on the Greek Throne His Royal Highness Prince Alfred.

2. It prays that this the most earnest of its desires be acceded to by Her Majesty the Queen, and by the generous English nation.

3. It earnestly begs your Excellency to make known this its prayer to the Most August Queen and the most noble English nation, in the Philhellenic sentiments of whom it has always found a treasure of friendship.

By order of the population of the capital,

(Signed) SOTIRIS N. PETIMEZA, *Commander of the Artillery.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 92.

*Mr. Scarlett's Reply to the second Deputation.**Athens, November 22, 1862.*

AS regards the question to which you allude, I am not authorized to offer an opinion, but I can assure you that England wishes Greece all happiness and prosperity.

Inclosure 4 in No. 92.

Speech of M. Triantophilis, Lawyer and ex-Professor of the University, Spokesman of the Third Deputation.

Excellency,

Athens, November 23, 1862.

THE citizens of the capital, assembled and united in a body as a sole person in your presence, express the fervent prayer of all the Greek race desiring to obtain as their Sovereign the mighty Alfred, Second Prince of Great Britain. So be it! So be it!

Inclosure 5 in No. 92.

Mr. Scarlett's Reply to the third Deputation.

Athenians,

Athens, November 23, 1862.

I AM flattered by the honour you show me by this manifestation in favour of Prince Alfred and the English nation.

With regard to the choice of Prince Alfred, I must retain the reserve I have hitherto done.

This point depends upon considerations which I am unable now to determine. Whatever happens, you may be sure of the deep interest England feels for Greece. I recommend to you calmness and moderation in your proceedings, and to await the meeting of your Assembly.

Inclosure 6 in No. 92.

Mr. Neale's Speech to Deputation at the Piræus.

Gentlemen,

Piræus, November 23, 1862.

RECEIVE my thanks for the honour which you have this day done to the British nation in declaring that the whole Greek nation are desirous to have His Royal Highness Prince Alfred for the future King of Greece.

If there is any person in Greece for a Republic, I have no doubt that they would receive from the Greek people the same reply that Lycurgus gave to a citizen of his time: "Go, my friend, and try the experiment in your family." Plato has described a good king who lives in the hearts of the people, and who is the defender of the liberties of the nation, as virtue manifested on earth.

You naturally turn to the free British nation, who in Her Majesty Queen Victoria have been in possession of this inestimable blessing, and the choice of your hearts is fixed on the Sailor Prince, Prince Alfred.

Though it is obvious that I know nothing as to who may be the future King of Greece, yet I may be permitted to accept this your declaration as showing your purpose to order the future constitution of Greece on the basis of freedom and obedience to the laws.

The Provisional Government has lost no time in convening the National Assembly, and every Greek is responsible for the future government of Greece.

It is to be hoped that the basis of the future constitution of Greece may be laid on solid foundations; and if it is so, who can doubt but that a good King, the keystone of the arch, will be found.

No. 93.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received December 6.)

(Extract.)

Athens, November 26, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a report sent by Captain Hobart, of Her Majesty's ship "Foxhound," from Nauplia, of the state of that town on his arrival there.

Since the departure of Grivas from Nauplia, which occurred a few days after the date of Captain Hobart's report, the disturbances of that city, and of the country about, appear to have been succeeded only by unanimous and peaceful demonstrations in favour of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred.

I inclose also a report from Mr. Black, Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Missolonghi, which I received this morning by post, by which it will be seen that the insubordination of the troops there, as before at Patras, had caused apprehension in the town, but that the active measures adopted by the British Vice-Consul had been sufficient to prevent any serious consequences from ensuing.

The attempt was made at Athens, the day before yesterday, by about twenty cavalry soldiers, to appoint a certain officer just returned from Constantinople, named Tritaki, to the command of the cavalry now here.

The Provisional Government, in the first instance, seemed afraid to deny the request made to them imperiously by the few soldiers only who were in favour of his appointment, but the rest of the cavalry, and some infantry, turned out immediately and arrested the greater part of these men. Some of the National Guard remained under arms all night, and no further disturbances occurred.

I may take this opportunity of reminding your Lordship, that directly after the revolution occurred, acts of pillage took place at Athens, and in consequence I requested that a few British marines should be left at Her Majesty's Legation. As a matter of precaution, these men are still at the Legation; but I have now complete confidence in the sufficiency of the national guard and police here to prevent any attack upon the property placed under my charge.

Inclosure 1 in No. 93.

Commander Hobart to Captain Hillyar.

Sir,

"Foxhound," Nauplia, November 19, 1862.

1. I HAVE the honour to inform you, that since my arrival I have communicated with the principal Ionian residents (there being no British Consul at this place), who, in the

name of the Ionian subjects here, desire me to thank the authorities under whose orders I was sent, for despatching a vessel of war for their protection. It is said that they had applied to the French Vice-Consul for protection, which he had promised to afford, and has written for a ship of war to be sent here.

2. It appears that although no actual outbreak has taken place, there are a number of disaffected Greeks in this neighbourhood who show much inclination to take advantage of the unprotected state of the inhabitants, and to commit excesses. There is no National Guard or police of any description. Of Ionians, I find there are about 350 in Nauplia and its neighbourhood. The general opinion appears to be, that during the elections (which I believe are to begin about the 6th of December), there will be disturbances,—not, perhaps, political, but between the adherents of the different candidates, of whom there are ten. Yesterday there was a disturbance in the streets between the soldiers and their officers, some of the former of whom desired my protection, which of course I refused; in fact, I have, in compliance with your instructions, let it be clearly understood that I am here simply to protect British interests, and that I would neither interfere nor afford protection with or to any of the inhabitants beyond the Ionians.

3. As regards Grivas, it is difficult to say what policy he is pursuing here. He arrived on Sunday, and was most enthusiastically received. He sent on board M. Boudouris to me to say he would leave immediately for Patras, visiting all the places round south by Cape Matapan to that place. However, he is here still, and has been visiting Argos and all the villages in the neighbourhood, where also his reception has been most enthusiastic. I have studiously avoided meeting him; he has a Government steamer at his disposal. A good deal of firing and noise goes on in the streets, said to be in honour of his presence. Yesterday a shotted gun was fired inland, for what object I cannot conceive.

4. The Ionian subjects are in considerable apprehension, but, except from robbers and electioneering disturbances, I see no reason for it. The worst feature I see is, that the authorities are powerless to quell any disturbance. I shall remain here until the arrival of the Greek steamer on Sunday, as you may think it necessary for me to remain here for the present.

5. I have just, since writing the above, had an interview with the French Vice-Consul, who, in accordance with the Austrian and other Consuls, have made an urgent request to me to remain for the present. Of course I could not give them any answer pending your orders. Their ground is the state of utter disorganization of the troops, and the fear they have of robbers. Grivas makes no sign of moving, and his presence keeps up the excitement.

I have, &c.
(Signed) AUGUSTUS C. HOBART.

Inclosure 2 in No. 93.

Acting Vice-Consul Black to Mr. Scarlett.

Sir,

Missolonghi, November 21, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that the day before yesterday some of the troops of this garrison, headed by a corporal, mutinied, seized upon the gate of the town, the hospital, and the powder-magazine: they loaded four field-pieces, and threatened to fire on the town. They demanded double pay, saying the troops at Patras had received it, and they ought to be treated in like manner. Major Boukouralet, the commandant of the garrison, promised them the pay, and required they should lay down their arms; but they refused, urging other complaints, which did not seem well founded. At last, at about noon, having promised them all their demands and full pardon, they consented to return to their duty. A panic had seized the whole town; the citizens armed, and took up different positions to prevent the mutineers from advancing to plunder the place, as they had threatened.

Thus the Consulate was again the refuge of a number of British subjects and a number of the inhabitants. In the afternoon the soldiers, finding it so easy to frighten the authorities, insisted on several officers on half-pay being sent away, but it was evidently an intrigue of some of the other officers.

During the night I was awakened by Major Papazafiris, whose life had been threatened, claiming the protection of the British flag: the troops had threatened to burn his house down. I endeavoured to prevent it, as the neighbouring houses belong to British subjects.

Yesterday morning early, in company of the Turkish Vice-Consul, I called on the

Nomarch, and requested the commander of the garrison might be present at our interview, as it was clear the Civil authorities were powerless.

I addressed them in very firm language. I told them they were perfectly aware one half of the town was the property of British subjects, and that the stores and shops contained British property; that consequently I had the best right to demand proper protection for Her Majesty's subjects and their property, and that if they could not ensure the proper respect for this Consulate and all persons claiming our protection, I should immediately haul down the Consular flag, warn all subjects to leave and go on board Her Majesty's ship "Icarus," declare them in a state of anarchy, and they must take the consequences. The commander assured me that, in concert with the Civil authorities, every measure should be taken to preserve the peace, and that every respect should be paid to all persons whom I chose to protect. It was soon known through the town, the military became humble, and the citizens plucked up courage.

I have been thanked by the population for saving them from great danger, and have received messages from the officers assuring me my wishes should be attended to. Thus, for the moment, all is quiet; the troublesome soldiers have been ordered away.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. BLACK.

No. 94.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received December 6.)

(Extract.)

Athens, November 28, 1862.

I WROTE to M. Diamantopoulos, Provisional Minister for Foreign Affairs, in the terms of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch dated the 7th instant, with reference to the admission of Epirotes and Thessalians dwelling in Greece as Deputies to represent the Turkish Province of Epirus and Thessaly.

I inclose the reply I have received from M. Diamantopoulos, by which he informs me that it is a mistake to suppose that it was ever the intention to allow Representatives of any Turkish Province in the National Assembly of Greece, but that the naturalized Epirotes and Thessalians resident here desire to exercise the privilege which they had in the Assembly of 1843. This privilege, I am informed, consisted in their being represented in the National Assembly as forming a Committee or Corporation apart, provided they were living together in any part of Greece in sufficient numbers to give them votes under a law proposed by that Assembly for that object.

The Provisional Government has declined to give its sanction to the renewal of this representation of Héterocthones in Greece, though naturalized, but it is still uncertain whether, if they elect themselves, the Assembly will receive them, although the Government intends to withhold its support from this Act.

I have nevertheless impressed upon the Minister of Foreign Affairs that I think every effort should be made to prevent this anomaly from taking place, as it may excite the susceptibility of Turkey, and as Her Majesty's Government have already expressed their dissatisfaction on the subject.

Inclosure in No. 94.

M. Diamantopoulos to Mr. Scarlett.

Monsieur,

Athènes, ce 14¹⁴/₂₆ Novembre, 1862.

J'AI l'honneur de répondre à la lettre que vous avez bien voulu m'adresser sous la date du $\frac{10}{2}$ de ce mois au sujet des élections des représentants à la prochaine Assemblée Nationale.

Vous avez, Monsieur, sous les yeux le Décret rendu par le Gouvernement Provisoire, et vous y avez sans doute remarqué qu'il n'est nullement question de représentants à élire par des provinces se trouvant sous la domination Ottomane.

Après la promulgation de ce Décret l'on a agité, il est vrai, la question de corporations, et à ce sujet je vous demande la permission d'entrer dans quelques détails afin d'en fixer la portée et le véritable sens.

Le droit réclamé par les corporations de se faire représenter à l'Assemblée Nationale n'a rien de commun avec l'idée de donner des représentants à des provinces Turques, et en effet il n'est entré dans la pensée de personne en Grèce de donner des représentants ni à l'Epire ni à la Thessalie ni à aucune autre des susdites provinces.

Seulement les originaux de ces provinces, citoyens Grecs, émigrés en Grèce en vertu des Protocoles, avaient exercé jusqu'à présent le droit de former des corporations distinctes et d'élire représentants. L'Assemblée Constituante convoquée à la suite de la Révolution du 3 Septembre comptait parmi ses membres plusieurs de ces Députés de corporations, choisis et envoyés à l'Assemblée non pas par des provinces appartenant à la Turquie, mais par des citoyens Grecs ayant le droit de former des corporations qui se faisaient seulement distinguer par l'origine de leurs membres, comme par exemple Corporations de Psariotes, Candiotes, &c.

C'est ce même droit qui a été revendiqué récemment par la plupart des corporations. Toutefois le Gouvernement Provisoire n'a cru jusqu'à présent devoir accéder à cette demande.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Athens, November $\frac{14}{26}$, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to reply to the letter which you addressed to me, under date of $\frac{10}{22}$ of this month upon the subject of the elections of the representatives at the next National Assembly.

You have, Sir, before you the Decree issued by the Provisional Government, and you will have doubtless remarked that there is no mention of electing Representatives for the Provinces which are under the Ottoman dominion.

After the promulgation of this Decree, it is true that the question of corporations was agitated, and as regards this matter I beg to enter into certain details with a view to a settlement of its bearing and true meaning. The right claimed by the corporations to be represented in the National Assembly has nothing in common with the idea of giving Representatives to the Turkish provinces, and, in fact, it has entered no one's mind in Greece to give Representatives either to Epirus or to Thessaly, nor to any other of the above-mentioned Provinces.

But natives of those provinces, Greek subjects and exiles residing in Greece, had exercised up to this time the right of forming distinct corporations and of electing Representatives. The Constituent Assembly convoked in consequence of the Resolution of September 3 possessed amongst its members several of these deputies of corporations, chosen and sent to the Assembly not by the Provinces belonging to Turkey, but by the Greek subjects having the right to form corporations and which were named according to the origin of their members—such as, for example, the corporations of Psariotes, Candiotes, &c.

It is this same right which has been lately claimed by the greater number of corporations. Nevertheless, the Provisional Government has not, up to the present time, thought proper to accede to this demand.

Accept, &c.
(Signed) A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

No. 95.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received December 6.)

My Lord,

Athens, November 28, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation of a Proclamation of the Provisional Government relative to the coming elections dated the 22nd instant, and signed by the members of that Government and by the Heads of the different Departments.

I have, &c.
(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 95.

Proclamation.

Hellènes!

UN Décret a fixé au 6 Décembre le jour de l'ouverture des opérations électorales dans toutes les provinces de l'Etat, pour l'élection des représentants.

Ce jour est critique; car l'intérêt de la patrie exige qu'il soit le prélude solennel de grandes choses.

En détrônant un Roi de trente ans de règne, au milieu d'une extrême modération et de la concorde, sans qu'aucune atteinte ait été portée à la morale, et avec une extrême sagesse unie à cet enthousiasme universel qu'inspire aux nations une conviction réfléchie, dès qu'il s'agit du salut de la patrie; sans qu'il se soit élevé une voix contraire, et qu'il

soit survenu d'anarchie ; sans qu'aucune violence ait été faite à l'honneur ni à la propriété des citoyens, la Grèce a reconquis parmi les nations le rang illustre où l'avait élevée la lutte sacrée de la révolution. Mais si l'exercice du droit souverain d'élire des représentants est heureusement appliqué, il changera en conviction l'idée aujourd'hui universelle, de la grandeur à venir de la nation Hellénique.

Par sa révolution le peuple Grec a fait voir qu'il ne veut pas un état de choses qui soit opposé à la civilisation et au progrès moral et matériel des nations ; qu'il répudie une politique rétrograde et ennemie de la morale : mais c'est à l'Assemblée Constituante qu'il appartient, tout en assurant l'avenir, de doter le pays de ce dont a pu le priver le régime déchu : car la révolution, qui a entièrement détruit le passé, n'a décidé aucune question, si ce n'est celle du maintien du régime monarchique constitutionnel pour forme de gouvernement.

Les maux causés par le régime passé ont été si grands et ont duré si longtemps qu'il n'est pas possible que le peuple s'égare dans le choix de ses représentants : aussi le Gouvernement croit-il inutile toute recommandation. Nous sentons tous que l'Assemblée doit prendre des sûretés à l'égard du Gouvernement, afin de prévenir le retour de cette triste époque de trente années qui vient de s'écouler, époque où les lois étaient foulées aux pieds, où des machinations étaient ourdies contre les droits et la morale du peuple. C'est pourquoi les Représentants dont l'Assemblée sera composée, apporteront sans doute dans leurs délibérations les principes de la révolution.

Il est un seul devoir que l'intérêt de la patrie impose au Gouvernement, c'est qu'il s'abstienne strictement de toute intervention directe ou indirecte dans les élections ; et ce devoir, il le remplit avec respect comme un devoir sacré. Considérant avec une conviction inébranlable que l'intervention, même morale, de la part du Gouvernement pendant l'élection des représentants serait, pour ainsi dire, une impiété, il s'abstiendra non seulement de désigner des candidats et de s'immiscer de quelque manière que ce soit dans aucune candidature, mais même d'exercer une influence morale quelconque sur les électeurs. Il faut que la volonté du peuple arrive dans l'Assemblée, pure, et sans avoir été influencée.

Dans ce but, le Gouvernement a ordonné le licenciement de toute Garde Nationale recevant une paie, afin qu'elle ne serve pas à exercer une pression sur quelqu'un des partis : et il a même fait remplacer la garde non payée par une garde de volontaires, qui seule garantit une vraie impartialité dans le maintien de l'ordre.

Il a de même, par un Décret, déclaré momentanément suspendu le pouvoir des Maires et de toutes les Autorités Municipales, afin de faire disparaître le moyen d'influencer les électeurs par l'intimidation, et c'est pourquoi il a ordonné qu'il soit procédé à de nouvelles élections des Autorités Municipales, dans tout le royaume, dès que l'élection des Représentants sera terminée.

Le Gouvernement a aussi ordonné aux employés de toute branche administrative de s'abstenir de s'immiscer dans les élections de quelque manière que ce soit, en leur déclarant que d'un côté ils seraient stigmatisés par l'opinion publique, et que de l'autre ils seraient destitués et punis sévèrement par l'autorité s'ils se rendaient coupables de ce qu'elle regarde comme un des plus grands crimes, l'altération de la volonté nationale. Que nul électeur n'ajoute donc foi à aucun des employés qu'il pourrait entendre dire le contraire ; mais que fort de sa conscience il donne son suffrage en se rappelant que c'est l'Assemblée qui décidera de l'avenir de la patrie.

Citoyens et soldats ! C'est entre vos mains que la patrie remet ses destinées. N'oubliez pas que les temps de révolution sont toujours critiques, et que c'est surtout dans ces conjonctures que les nations font voir ce qu'elles valent.

Si l'ordre public est troublé et que les élections soient entachées d'altération et de violence, les effets en seront redoutables ; car tout en luttant dans les élections dans le seul but de reconstituer la patrie, nous l'exposerions à un danger funeste et sans remède.

La patrie réclame de vous de la conscience dans votre vote, et de la modération en donnant votre suffrage. Elle demande que vous observiez, comme vous l'avez fait jusqu'à ce jour, l'ordre public, que vous vous respectiez vous-mêmes et que vous respectiez les droits des autres ; que vous montriez la même dignité dans votre vie particulière et dans votre vie politique. Tout ce que vous voyez autour de vous est provisoire et soumis à votre propre décision, par l'intermédiaire de l'Assemblée Nationale. Le Gouvernement provisoire ne pouvait cicatiser aucune des plaies qu'a laissées à la nation le régime déchu ; il a reçu d'elle une autre mission, celle de maintenir la paix à l'intérieur et de convoquer l'Assemblée.

Reconstituer l'Eglise ; assurer le présent et l'avenir de l'armée et les droits politiques des citoyens ; constituer l'indépendance des municipalités et y apporter des améliorations ; accomplir les vœux persévérants de la nation ; établir la morale dans la politique et dans la

société,—tout cela est dans vos mains. Envoyez dans l'Assemblée Nationale des représentants qui aient vu les souffrances de la nation et qui désirent consciencieusement y apporter un remède.

Les générations futures qui vous devront leur bonheur se souviendront avec respect et une profonde reconnaissance d'une génération qui en aura établi le fondement. Quant à nous, qui n'avons d'autre ambition que de voir juger nos actes avec impartialité par le public, nous déposerons entre les mains de l'Assemblée notre pouvoir momentané, intact et digne de notre patrie.

Athènes, le 22 Novembre, 1862.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire,

(Signé)

D. G. BOULGARIS, *Président.*

C. CANARIS.

B. ROUPHOS.

Les Ministres Secrétaires d'Etat,

(Signé)

T. MANGHINAS.

TH. A. ZAIMIS.

ALEX. COUMOUNDOUROS.

D. MAVROMICHALIS.

E. DELIGEORGIS.

D. CALLIFRONAS.

A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

B. NICOLOPOULOS.

Le Secrétaire Général du Gouvernement Provisoire,

N. A. CHATSOPoulos.

(Translation.)

Hellenes !

A DECREE has fixed the 6th December for the day of the opening of electoral proceedings in all the provinces of the State, for the election of the representatives.

That day is a critical one, for the country's interests demand that it shall be the solemn prelude to great matters.

The dethronement of a King who has reigned for thirty years, amid extreme moderation and concord, morality not having suffered in any degree, and the highest wisdom having been joined with that universal enthusiasm, which conviction resulting from reflection inspires nations with, the moment the welfare of their country is in question ; no opposing voice having raised itself, and anarchy not having succeeded ; no sort of violence having been done to the honour or to the property of citizens ; has reconquered for Greece that illustrious rank among the nations to which the sacred struggle of the Revolution had raised her. But if the exercise of the sovereign prerogative of electing representatives be happily applied, it will change into conviction the idea at present universal of the grandeur destined for the Hellenic nation.

In their revolution the Greek people have demonstrated that they seek not for a condition of things which is opposed to civilization and to the moral and material progress of nations ; that they repudiate a retrograde system of politics, and one hostile to morals ; but it is the province of the Constituent Assembly, at the same time that it gives assurances for the future, to endow the country with that of which the fallen system may have deprived it : for the Revolution, which has entirely swept away the past, has decided no question, except it be that of the maintenance of the system of constitutional monarchy as the form of government.

The evils caused by the late system have been so great, and have continued for such a length of time, that it is not possible that the people can go astray in the choice of their representatives ; and the Government consider it unnecessary to recommend any course. We all feel that the Assembly must take sureties in respect of the Government, in order to preclude the return of that sad period of thirty years which has just expired, a period during which the laws were trampled on, and machinations against the rights and the moral welfare of the people were devised. For this reason the representatives of whom the Assembly shall be composed will doubtless bring into their deliberations the principles of the Revolution.

There is only one duty which the interests of our country impose upon the Government : it is that they should strictly abstain from all intervention, direct or indirect, in the election ; and this duty they are fulfilling faithfully, regarding it as a sacred duty. Considering with a conviction that cannot be shaken that intervention, even when morally given, on the part of the Government, during the election of Representatives, would be, so to speak, impiety, they will abstain not only from designating candidates and from

interfering in any manner whatever in any candidatureship, but even from exercising any sort of moral influence over the electors. It is requisite that the popular will should be found in the Assembly pure and uninfluenced.

With this object the Government has ordered the disbanding of every corps of the National Guard that receives pay, in order that it may not be used to exert a pressure upon any faction; and they have even replaced the unpaid Guard by a guard of Volunteers, which is the only guarantee for real impartiality in the maintenance of order.

They have, at the same time, by a Decree, declared the authority of the Mayors and of all the municipal authorities in abeyance for the moment, in order to remove from sight the mode of influencing the electors through intimidation, and for this purpose they have ordered that fresh elections of municipal authorities should be proceeded with throughout the kingdom, as soon as the elections of the Representatives shall have terminated.

The Government have likewise directed the persons employed in every branch of the administration to abstain from interfering in the elections in any manner whatever, announcing to them that they would, on the one hand, be reprobated by public opinion, and on the other they would lose their situations and be severely punished by those in power should they render themselves guilty of what they regard as one of the greatest of crimes, the corruption of the national will. Let, therefore, no elector give credence to any one of those public officers who may say the contrary, but let him, strong in his own conscience, give his vote, calling to mind that it is the Assembly which shall decide the destiny of our country.

Citizens and soldiers! it is to your hands that the country entrusts her destinies. Remember that the periods of revolution are ever critical, and that it is in these conjunctures especially that nations show their worth.

If public order be troubled, and the elections be troubled with corruption and with violence, the result will be alarming; for at the same time that we are striving through the elections with no other object than that of re-establishing our country, we should expose it to a fatal and irremediable risk.

The country requires of you a conscientious vote, and moderation when giving your suffrage. She demands that you will have regard to public order, as you have had hitherto, that you will preserve self-respect, and will respect the rights of others; that you will show like dignity in your private and your public lives. Everything that you see around you is provisional, and subject to your own decision, through the channel of the National Assembly. The Provisional Government could heal none of the sores which the destroyed system has left in the nation; it has received from it another mission, that of maintaining domestic peace, and of convoking the Assembly.

To reconstitute the Church; to make assured the present and the future of the army and the political rights of the citizens; to constitute the independence of the municipalities, and to introduce ameliorations into them; to satisfy the constant wishes of the nation; to establish a moral sense in political life and in society—all these are in your hands. Send to the National Assembly representatives who have beheld the sufferings of the nation, and who conscientiously desire to apply a remedy to them.

The future generations which will owe their happiness to you will remember with respect and profound gratitude a generation which will have laid its foundation. For ourselves, having no other ambition than to see our acts judged with impartiality by the public, we will lay down in the hands of the Assembly our temporary power, uninjured, and worthily of our country.

Athens, November 22, 1862.

The Provisional Government,

(Signed)

D. G. BOULGARIS, *President*.
C. CANARIS.
B. ROUPHOS.

The Ministers Secretaries of State,

(Signed)

T. MANGHINAS.
TH. A. ZAIMIS.
ALEX. COUMOUNDOUROS.
D. MAVROMICHALIS.
E. DELIGEORGIS.
D. CALLIFRONAS.
A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.
B. NICOLOPOULOS.

The Secretary-General of the Provisional Government,

N. A. CHATSOPOULOS.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received December 6.)

(Extract.)

Athens, November 18, 1862.

I INCLOSE a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Syra, and a translation of an Act of the Municipal Council of Nauplia, which seem to show that the enthusiasm in favour of Prince Alfred is rather on the increase than otherwise.

P.S.—I have the honour to inclose the translation of an account of my reception of the deputation, which has only just appeared in the Greek papers.

Inclosure 1 in No. 96.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Scarlett.

(Extract.)

Syra, November 26, 1862.

A FORTY-DAYS' Greek Lent beginning to-morrow, to-day another grand demonstration was made through the town, the names of the three that fell in Thermia being given to the three squares or open spaces in the town. This morning having to return visits afloat, I was this afternoon engaged writing a letter to your Excellency, when I received a visit from the Demarch, and after remaining a few minutes with him I begged him to excuse me for a few minutes, as I feared missing the post for Athens; but I had scarcely terminated my letter, when the procession with music and banners, and portrait of Prince Alfred, passed the great square, and came to my house, where they halted, and continued cheering.

The Demarch being in my house, I opened the door, when the cheering was renewed. After waiting till the noise had subsided, I thanked the people for the expression of their sentiments, which could not but be highly flattering.

The cheering for Prince Alfred and the Queen was most tremendous, and as the procession passed on, the cheering of the different groups that followed, among which were all the chief merchants and men of business of the town, was renewed at intervals as they successively passed the door.

To-day I heard a report of a project for erecting the Ionian Islands into a Kingdom under Prince Alfred, and under British protection as before, and annexing thereto Continental Greece and the Cyclades.

The elections for Deputies to the National Assembly will begin, it is said, here on the 24th November, old style.

The public petition that is being signed in favour of Prince Alfred has already nearly 3,000 signatures attached to it.

Inclosure 2 in No. 96.

Act of Municipal Council of Nauplia relative to His Royal Highness Prince Alfred.

(Translation.)

THE Municipal Council of Nauplia, composed of its President, M. Michael Jatros, and the undersigned members, assembled in an extraordinary sitting, this day, Monday, the $\frac{1}{2}$ ²/₄th November, 1862, at 9 o'clock A.M., in the Municipal Hall, hearing the proposition of the Demarch, M. Euthimiopoulos;

Taking into consideration the enthusiasm and warm acclamations of all the inhabitants and garrison of Nauplia and Pronæa, shown during the universal demonstration which took place this day in favour of Her Majesty the Queen of the United States of Great Britain and Ireland, and of Prince Alfred as constitutional King of the Greeks; and

Firmly convinced that on the fulfilment of this national desire depends the prosperity and aggrandizement of our beloved country;

The Municipal Council of Nauplia, representing the whole Demos, glorifies meanwhile the Most High for His hitherto unceasing benevolence towards His beloved Hellenic nation, for having inspired it with this idea, the salvation of Greece, and the maintaining intact the gratitude of the nation towards the three Great Powers, the allies and benefactors of Greece;

Unanimously declares,—

That it participates in and entirely concurs with the wish expressed by the inhabitants and garrison of Nauplia, and

Beseech that the Constituent National Assembly, which is shortly to meet, will take into consideration this national desire, and elect His Royal Highness the English Prince Alfred as King of the Greeks, conforming himself to the Constitution voted.

The Mayor of Nauplia is solicited to publish copy of the present Act in one of the public papers, and in proper time submit a similar copy to the President of the National Assembly.

The Municipal Council,
(Signed) M. JATROS, *President*.

The Members,
A. GALANOPOULOS.
N. MARATOS.
ATH. GEORGIOU.
S. A. BELINIS.
N. A. CALOGEROPOULOS.
M. COTZONDIOLAS.
D. JATRIDES.

Inclosure 3 in No. 96.

Extract from the "National Guard" of November 29, 1862.

UNE Députation de la Garde Nationale et de l'Université s'étant présentée chez M. le Ministre d'Angleterre pour lui exprimer ses vœux en faveur de l'avènement du Prince Alfred au Trône de Grèce, Mr. Scarlett leur a répondu dans les termes suivants: —

"Je suis très flatté de l'honneur que vous me faites; je ne manquerai pas de me faire l'interprète auprès de mon Gouvernement des vœux que vous exprimez pour le bonheur et la prospérité de Prince Alfred. Le Gouvernement Anglais désire voir la Grèce prospère et libre de choisir le Prince qu'elle voudra. L'Angleterre respectera l'expression des désirs de la Grèce; mais quant au Prince Alfred, auquel vous voulez offrir la couronne, il m'est impossible de vous dire si elle serait acceptée par lui. Je ne puis que vous répéter les mots dont je me suis servi sur le balcon lors de la dernière démonstration.

"J'ai reçu ordre de mon Gouvernement de ne me mêler en aucune façon de vos affaires.

"L'Angleterre désire surtout que la Grèce ne soit pas agressive et qu'elle tourne ses efforts vers l'amélioration de sa condition intérieure.

"Elle ne désire pas voir la Grèce Républicaine, mais dotée d'une Monarchie Constitutionnelle."

No. 97.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received December 6.)

(Extract.)

Athens, November 28, 1862.

M. DIAMANTOPOULOS asked me if I thought that a plebiscite would be as good a way of taking the opinion of the country as the vote of the Assembly, or whether it would do instead of it.

I declined to give any advice on the subject at all; and I told M. Diamantopoulos that your Lordship had not given me further instructions than to express a hope that the Greek nation would proceed to the modification of its Constitution, and become a Constitutional Monarchy, and be neither Republican at home nor aggressive abroad.

No. 98.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received December 7.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, December 2, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship, herewith, a copy of an official note which I have this day addressed to the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NAPIER.

Lord Napier to Prince Gortchakoff.

St. Petersburg, ^{20 November}_{2 December}, 1862.

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, has the honour to acquaint his Excellency Prince Gortchakoff, Vice-Chancellor, Minister of Foreign Affairs, that Earl Russell has received from the Imperial Ambassador in London a satisfactory assurance that His Imperial Highness Prince Nicolas Maximilianowitch Romanoffsky, Duke of Leuchtenberg, is recognized by the Russian Government as a member of the reigning family of Russia. In conveying this assurance to Earl Russell, Baron Brunnow made reference to the "Annuaire Diplomatique" of the Russian Empire.

Earl Russell has charged the Undersigned to express to his Excellency the Vice-Chancellor the satisfaction which this explanation has afforded to Her Majesty's Government.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) NAPIER.

No. 99.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received December 9.)

Sir,

Admiralty, December 8, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, extracts from a letter of Captain Hillyar, of Her Majesty's ship "Queen," dated the 15th November, relating to the state of affairs in Greece.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 99.

Vice-Admiral Sir W. Martin to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Marlborough," at Malta, December 1, 1862.

THE following extracts from a letter from Captain C. F. Hillyar, of Her Majesty's ship "Queen," senior officer at the Piræus, dated the 15th ultimo, are transmitted to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. F. MARTIN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 99.

Captain Hillyar to Vice-Admiral Sir W. Martin.

(Extract.)

"Queen," Piræus, November 15, 1862.

SINCE your departure from this port the state of affairs at Athens remains *in statu quo*.

The Provisional Government continues to use its utmost endeavours to preserve order, which, up to the present time, has not been disturbed.

Very strong demonstrations have been made at Athens and throughout the country in favour of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred being nominated as future King of Greece, and there is no doubt that, with the approval of England, he would be unanimously elected.

On the 10th instant the French Admiral despatched the steam-sloop "Euménide" to Patras, for the protection of French property, a telegram having arrived at Athens that the troops of that place were inclined to behave in an insubordinate and riotous manner. Considerable fears were also entertained at Athens with respect to the future behaviour of the troops, who, since the revolution, have been allowed to have almost entirely their own way, and who, at present, do not seem inclined to return to a military state of discipline.

The elections are to take place about the end of November, and the National Assembly is to meet on the 22nd December. As many candidates are in the field for

different parts of the country, a hotly-contested election may be expected, which, no doubt, will lead to local riots and disturbances.

The Greek frigate late "Amalia" is supposed to be at Missolonghi or in the Gulf of Patras, and the remaining Greek steam-vessels are kept constantly running between the Piræus and the Islands, Nauplia and Corinth.

The following is a list of the men-of-war at present at the Piræus :—Her Majesty's ships "Queen" and "Foxhound;" French frigate, "Zénobie" (flag-ship); Italian frigate, "Victor Emmanuel," and an Italian steam-sloop; Turkish corvette (Captain Hassan Bey); Russian frigate, "Grand Admiral."

No. 100.

Earl Russell to Lord Napier.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 10, 1862.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 2nd instant, and I have to inform you, in reply that Her Majesty's Government approve the note of which a copy is therein inclosed, which you addressed to Prince Gortchakoff, expressing the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at the assurance which had been given by Baron Brunnow that the Duke of Leuchtenberg is recognized by the Imperial Government as a member of the reigning Family of Russia.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 101.

Earl Russell to Mr. H. Elliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 12, 1862.

YOU are directed to proceed immediately to Athens, and I am commanded to give you the following instructions for the guidance of your conduct when there.

It is Her Majesty's earnest desire to contribute to the welfare and prosperity of Greece.

The Treaties of 1827 and 1832 bear evidence of this desire on the part of the British Crown.

The Provisional Government of Greece declared, upon the withdrawal of King Otho from Greece, that their mission is to maintain for Greece Constitutional Monarchy and the relations of peace with all other States.

If the new Assembly of the Representatives of the Greek nation should prove faithful to this declaration, should maintain Constitutional Monarchy, and should refrain from all aggression against neighbouring States, and if they should choose a Sovereign against whom no well-founded objection could be raised, Her Majesty would see in this course of conduct a promise of future freedom and happiness for Greece. In such case Her Majesty, with a view to strengthen the Greek Monarchy, would be ready to announce to the Senate and Representatives of the Ionian Islands Her Majesty's wish to see them united to the Monarchy of Greece, and form with Greece one united State; and if this wish should be expressed also by the Ionian Legislature, Her Majesty would then take steps for obtaining the concurrence of the Powers who were parties to the Treaty by which the Seven Ionian Islands and their dependencies were placed as a separate State under the Protectorate of the British Crown.

Her Majesty takes this step without any other motive than a warm regard and friendship for the Greek nation.

The detailed arrangements for carrying this measure, if determined upon, into effect, would be the subject of future communications from Her Majesty's Government to the Government of Greece and to the Powers who signed the Treaty of November 1815.

You will take care, in your communications upon this subject, to make it understood that the election of a Prince who should be the symbol and precursor of revolutionary disturbance, or of the adoption of an aggressive policy towards Turkey, would prevent any relinquishment of Her Majesty's Protectorate of the Ionian Islands.

Her Majesty's Government trust that, in the selection of a Sovereign to rule over Greece, the Greek Assembly will choose for their King a Prince from whom they can expect a regard for religious liberty, a respect for constitutional freedom, and a sincere

love of peace. A Prince possessing these qualities will be fitted to promote the happiness of Greece, and will be honoured with the friendship and confidence of Her Majesty the Queen.

You will speak in this sense to the members of the Provisional Government and to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

You will, of course, communicate unreservedly with Mr. Scarlett, and you may rely upon his co-operation and support in the execution of your duties.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 102.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received December 13.)

(Extract.)

St. Petersburg, December 2, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith an extract from the "Journal de St. Pétersbourg," having reference to the succession or election to the Throne of Greece.

Inclosure in No. 102.

Extract from the "Journal de St. Pétersbourg" of November 1⁸/₃₀, 1862.

LA question du choix du futur Souverain de la Grèce préoccupe vivement la presse étrangère. Avant même que l'Assemblée Nationale, qui doit se réunir à Athènes, n'ait été saisie de cette question, on met en avant des candidatures, on préjuge les résolutions des grandes Puissances, on établit même entre elles une espèce de compétition, comme si elles n'étaient pas liées par des engagements communs.

Nous croyons pouvoir affirmer que le Gouvernement Russe n'a pas un instant songé à s'écarter du principe posé par le Protocole signé à Londres le 3 Février, 1830, et qui exclut du Trône de Grèce les membres des familles régnantes des trois Cours.

La plupart des feuilles étrangères contiennent à ce sujet des assertions contradictoires. Dans un article que nous reproduisons, le journal "La France," ordinairement bien informé, attribue, par exemple, au Cabinet de Londres l'initiative d'une déclaration dans ce sens aux deux autres Puissances Protectrices.

Nous sommes en mesure d'affirmer que dès le 19 Octobre le Cabinet Impérial a formellement déclaré que pour sa part il restait fidèle à l'esprit du Protocole du 3 Février, 1830, et que depuis il n'a jamais varié dans cette attitude.

En confrontant les dates on peut facilement se convaincre que cette déclaration a suivi de trop près les événements survenus à Athènes pour qu'elle ait pu être devancée par aucune démarche semblable, et que le Cabinet de St. Pétersbourg a été le premier à rappeler le principe convenu en commun et à déclarer sa résolution de l'observer fidèlement dans les présentes circonstances.

(Translation.)

THE question of the choice of a future Sovereign for Greece strongly occupies the attention of the press abroad. Even before the National Assembly, which is to meet at Athens, has entered upon the question, candidates have been put forward, the Resolutions of the Great Powers have been anticipated, and a sort of competition among them has been assumed as if they were not all bound by common engagements.

We believe we may state confidently that the Russian Government has not, for an instant, thought of departing from the principle established by the Protocol signed at London on the 3rd of February, 1830, and which excludes from the Throne of Greece the members of the reigning families of the three Courts.

Most of the foreign journals contain contradictory statements upon this subject. For instance, in an article which we reproduce, "La France," a newspaper usually well informed, states that the Cabinet of St. James' has taken the initiative in proposing a declaration in the above sense to the two other Protecting Powers.

We are enabled to state positively that, ever since the 19th of October, the Imperial Cabinet has formally declared that for its part it faithfully observed the spirit of the Protocol of the 3rd of February, 1830, and that it has, since then, not changed its attitude.

By a reference to dates it is easy to perceive that this declaration followed too closely upon the events which have taken place at Athens to be anticipated by any such step, and that the Cabinet of St. Petersburg has been the first to recall the principle agreed upon in common, and to declare its readiness faithfully to adhere to it under present circumstances.

No. 103.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received December 13.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, December 6, 1862,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a translation of a Decree published under date of the 25th February, 1854, by His Majesty the King of Bavaria, by which the sale of the entailed estates of the Duke of Leuchtenberg is formally recognized, and by which the renunciation by Her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess, on behalf of her children, of all the "personal advantages, honours, rights and privileges" conferred on the Ducal House of Leuchtenberg in Bavaria is accepted.

It appears by the Imperial Ukazes on this subject, that the late Emperor did almost everything which affection could suggest and public acts confirm, to adopt the family of the Duke of Leuchtenberg into the Imperial family of Russia. It appears, on the other hand, that Her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess Marie, Duchess of Leuchtenberg, did everything in her power to withdraw her children from their Bavarian nationality, and to annul the honours which belonged to them in that kingdom; and that, moreover, the King of Bavaria co-operated with their Imperial Highnesses in fulfilling this formal transfer of the family from Bavaria to Russia. Whether we regard the acts of the Emperor of Russia, those of the Grand Duchess, or those of the King of Bavaria, we recognize the same intention, and the combined effect of these acts is to constitute a complete expatriation of the family from Bavaria, and a complete adoption of them in this Empire.

With these documents before us, we are, I think, justified in regarding the family of Romanoffsky-Leuchtenberg as a princely family of Russia, enjoying the title of Imperial Highness, closely identified by blood, affection, and education with the Imperial family, as belonging to that family in the present generation at least, and as being merely attached to Bavaria by the possession of a barren title, though one which will always be most honourable from the character of those who have borne it.

I learn from my Bavarian colleague that His Imperial Highness Prince Romanoffsky, Duke of Leuchtenberg, is received at the Court of Bavaria with the honours due to a member of the Imperial family of Russia, and in no degree with reference to his Bavarian nobility, or his connection with the Bavarian family by blood.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NAPIER.

Inclosure in No. 103.

Decree.

(Translation.)

WE, Maximilian II, by the grace of God, King of Bavaria, Count Palatine of the Rhine, Duke of Bavaria, Franconia, and Suabia, &c., &c., hereby make known and declare, after the Grand Duchess Maria Nicholaevna of Russia, Duchess Dowager of Leuchtenberg, and Princess of Eichstadt, Imperial Highness, had, in the capacity of guardian of the surviving sons and daughters of the deceased Duke of Leuchtenberg, Prince of Eichstadt, Imperial Highness, distinctly and in legal form made known (by a Decree dated Torquay in England, September $\frac{1}{2}$, 1853) her will that the hitherto existing entail of the Principedom of Eichstadt should be dissolved, and that the settlement of entail heretofore existing should, together with all its appurtenances, be absorbed into the allodial property of the minor, Prince Romanoffsky, Imperial Highness, and the consent to this act having been given by all concerned, especially by the special curator appointed for the male descendants of His Imperial Highness Duke Maximilian of Leuchtenberg, Prince of Eichstadt, we give hereby our Royal consent (with reference to §10, tit. 1, of the Royal Proclamation of November 15, 1817, State Papers, p. 947, and with reference to Article XI of the Royal Rescript of December 31, 1834, State Papers, 1835, p. 826) to the dissolution of the entailed property of the Duke of Leuchtenberg, determined on by those interested in the matter, and to the alteration of the property, which was hitherto entailed, into allodial and free property, reserving, however, the right of prior purchase; and we consent at the same

time to the renunciation made by the Princess Maria Nicholaevna, Dowager Duchess of Leuchtenberg, and Princess of Eichstadt, Imperial Highness, both for herself and as guardian of the children left by the Duke Maximilian of Leuchtenberg, Prince of Eichstadt, Imperial Highness, of all the personal advantages, honours, rights and privileges conferred on the Ducal House of Leuchtenberg by Royal declarations and subsequent resolutions to its members in the Kingdom of Bavaria, concerning which a public proclamation, &c., &c., as far as such is necessary, will hereafter follow.

Given at our metropolis and residence, Munich, February 25, 1854, in the sixth year of our reign.

(Signed) MAX.

No. 104.

Earl Russell to Mr. Scarlett.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 13, 1862.

I HAVE received and laid before the Queen your despatch of the 24th ultimo, giving an account of the popular demonstrations in favour of the election of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred to the throne of Greece which have taken place at Athens, and I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government approve the several replies which you have made to the crowds assembled before the British Legation.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 105.

Sir A. Buchanan to Earl Russell.—(Received December 15.)

(Extract.)

Berlin, December 13, 1862.

M. DE BISMARCK expressed much satisfaction when I saw him yesterday at the arrangement which Her Majesty's Government had come to with that of Russia for the exclusion of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred and His Imperial Highness the Duke of Leuchtenberg as candidates for the vacant Throne of Greece.

No. 106.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received December 16.)

(Extract.)

St. Petersburg, December 7, 1862.

IN conformity with your Lordship's instructions I have had the honour of placing in the hands of Prince Gortchakoff your Lordship's despatch of November 28, relating to the correspondence which has passed between Her Majesty's Government and that of Russia with reference to the election of a Sovereign in Greece.

I obtained an interview with the Vice-Chancellor yesterday afternoon. His Excellency read your Lordship's despatch aloud, and in doing so offered some reflections upon its contents, of which I now submit to your Lordship the substance.

To the first portion of your Lordship's despatch, embodying a recapitulation of the several communications which have passed between the two Governments in England and at St. Petersburg, the Vice-Chancellor offered no objection. He acknowledged the accuracy of your Lordship's narrative.

The paragraph which reproduces the reasons offered by Prince Gortchakoff in declining to give a definitive reply respecting the position of His Imperial Highness the Duke of Leuchtenberg, afforded to his Excellency an occasion for some remarks. He declared that he adhered to the views which he had previously intimated respecting the relations of the Duke to the engagements existing regarding the exclusion of Princes belonging to the three reigning Houses from the Hellenic Throne. The position of the Duke was a matter open to juridical discussion. He believed that a majority of jurists would determine that, technically, the Duke did not belong to the category of Princes excluded by Treaty. The Duke was in one sense a Prince of the Imperial family: he belonged to that family by blood; and the late Emperor, who regarded his daughter the Grand Duchess Marie with peculiar tenderness on account of the desire she had manifested to remain near him, and to identify herself even in her married life with her native

country, had bestowed on her children honours and privileges of a nature which reflected his sentiments ; but those marks of his affection stopped short of constituting them, in a full and absolute sense, members of the Imperial House. The children were excluded by the marriage settlement from the succession to the Throne of Russia ; they had no appanage whatever from the State ; they had not received the Grand Ducal title ; they had never been prayed for in the Liturgy of the Russian Church. This last distinction was one of which a Russian could perhaps alone appreciate the full significance. Subject as the children of the Grand Duchess were to these disabilities, he could not admit that they were, strictly speaking, and in a perfect sense, Princes of the Imperial family.

He contended that the exclusion of the Duke of Leuchtenberg, as deducible from the text of the Treaty, must be considered a matter of doubt. It was obvious that a mere relationship or connection, however close, was not contemplated as a ground of exclusion by the engagements of 1826 and 1827, by which the Powers respectively disclaimed the desire of obtaining exclusive influence or ascendancy in Greece. Overtures had been made to the Prince of Saxe-Coburg after the signature of those engagements with reference to the Hellenic Throne, though he was the son-in-law of the Prince Regent, and at that very time in the receipt of a pension from Great Britain.

If, however, said the Vice-Chancellor, we turn from the mere contemplation of the Treaty to regard the question as one of general policy, the exclusion of the Duke of Leuchtenberg might be recommended on many considerations. He had from the first moment never contemplated the election of the Duke as desirable. He had always been personally opposed to it ; and in all his communications with the Emperor this sentiment had been constantly expressed. He held that the election of the Duke of Leuchtenberg would not be in the interests of Russia. No single act or expression in Greece or elsewhere on the part of the Russian Government, or on the part of any one connected with it, had given countenance to the candidature of the Duke.

His Excellency added, that I must have inferred that such was his opinion. He had stated in the most unqualified manner that Russia had no secret policy, no selfish ambition (" *arrière pensée, convoitise personnelle*") in this matter.

He had not thought proper to express himself categorically with reference to the exclusion of the Duke when summoned to do so by Her Majesty's Government, but his opinions were not the less formed and decided on that account.

In regard to the combined declaration at Athens proposed by Her Majesty's Government, he had declined it, for he thought that the expression of a common resolution so formal and absolute might have had the effect of driving the Greeks into violent courses, and of strengthening the party of disorder ; such a declaration he had disapproved of as a method of moral treatment (" *hygiène morale*") in reference to the condition of the Greek nation at that conjuncture. Such had been his opinion, which, like all opinions, was, no doubt, subject to error. He had, however, conveyed to the Provisional Government of Greece a distinct declaration that the Russian Government recognized the engagements of 1830, prescribing the exclusion of the Princes of the three reigning Houses. That communication had been imparted by Count Bloudoff, and he was not aware that a similar declaration had been made by the Representatives of either of the other Powers. As for the demonstrations which had been evoked in favour of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred, as he had never regarded them as serious, whatever others might have thought, for his part they had never inspired him with the slightest apprehension.

In replying to these observations, I said, with reference to the remark that I must have inferred that the opinion of Prince Gortchakoff was opposed to the election of the Duke of Leuchtenberg, that the language of his Excellency on this subject had been accurately reported to Her Majesty's Government in my despatch of the 19th ultimo,* which had been submitted to his inspection, and which I had amplified and corrected in a subsequent report dated the 22nd ultimo,† conformably with his wishes. Her Majesty's Government were as well informed on the subject as I was myself. As to the notion of a peremptory demand having been made by Her Majesty's Government, nothing had been in the outset further from the wishes of Her Majesty's Government. His Excellency must have remarked, I said, that I had in our first conversations never alluded to the Duke of Leuchtenberg by name, and when your Lordship first did so, it was in a confidential form, in an unofficial letter to the Russian Ambassador : I was convinced it was your Lordship's desire, as it had been my own, that the exclusion of the Duke of Leuchtenberg should have appeared as a spontaneous declaration on the part of the Russian Government. In regard to the quality of the Duke of Leuchtenberg, I did not contend that he was placed in all respects absolutely on the same line as the other Princes of the Imperial House, but still, in formal official documents, one

* No. 65.

† No. 77.

of which I held in my hand, he was distinctly characterized as a "member of the Imperial Family." As such, too, he had been recognized recently by the Russian Ambassador in London. Baron Brunnow had made this statement to your Lordship, and I had been charged accordingly to record it in an official note, which I had transmitted to his Excellency a day or two ago. I could not allow that the connection by marriage which existed between the Royal Family of England and the Prince of Saxe-Coburg, at an earlier period, could be compared with the relationship of the Duke of Leuchtenberg by blood with the Imperial House of Russia, strengthened as it had been by an identification with Russian nationality.

The Vice-Chancellor reverted to his previous statement that in one sense the Duke of Leuchtenberg was a member of the Imperial family, and in other respects he was not so. His Excellency added that the question was no longer worthy of discussion. For all practical purposes at the present moment it was settled; for declarations had been exchanged between your Lordship and Baron Brunnow to the effect, first, that the engagements of 1830, excluding the Princes of the three reigning Houses, remained in force; and secondly, that if either His Royal Highness Prince Alfred or the Duke of Leuchtenberg were chosen, the election should be considered null and void.

The Vice-Chancellor continuing the perusal of your Lordship's instructions, then fell upon the paragraph respecting the House of Bavaria, and the disinclination of Her Majesty's Government to offer a King to Greece who is sure to be rejected.

On this subject Prince Gortchakoff remarked, that in advising a combined overture to the Court of Bavaria, he had been prompted by a double motive; by the respect due to the House of Bavaria, and by the respect due to international engagements. The House of Bavaria was one of high consideration and alliances, which was not to be cast aside as a thing of no account. Nor were the Treaties between the three Powers concerning the establishment and succession of the Bavarian dynasty in Greece to be regarded as annulled by the breath of a popular revolution in Greece. If those Treaties were to fall, he desired that they might be dissolved in a regular and orderly fashion.

If in reply to his proposed inquiries the Court of Bavaria had declared its indifference to its rights under the Treaties, or if it had responded in reference to Article 40 of the Greek Constitution in a procrastinating or evasive manner, then the Powers might have embraced some proper course for absolving themselves from all further obligations in the matter; but if the Court of Bavaria had presented a Prince ready to ascend the Throne of Greece, accepting the national religion and fulfilling all the conditions of the Treaty, he would, with the assent and co-operation of the other Powers, have been disposed to present such a Prince to the Greek nation as worthy of their consideration, without the least design of exercising any constraint whatever on their selection.

It was not now by any means so sure that the Greeks would refuse a candidate presenting himself under such circumstances. After what had been concluded in London, the Greeks would probably awaken to a more sober sense of their position. Finding that the Princes of the great Houses who responded to their illusions were excluded, they would have to put up with a more unambitious selection. In reply to his proposal for a combined step at Munich, France had returned a decided negative; and Her Majesty's Government had answered by a less unhesitating refusal, alleging that Baron Cetto having returned no reply to a previous communication, they did not see their way to doing any more.

Referring to the remarks of Prince Gortchakoff respecting the contingency of a Prince being found in the House of Bavaria I asked his Excellency whether such a Prince would, in his opinion, appear in the light of a successor to King Otho to be received by the Greeks, or of a new candidate to be elected. If as a candidate to be elected, there would be great difficulty in announcing beforehand a change of religion; for if the Prince were not elected after all, he would be in the position of having changed his religion for an interested motive, and of having got nothing by it. I added that I gathered an impression from his Excellency's reflections that he had a preference for a Prince of the House of Bavaria.

In replying, Prince Gortchakoff treated my distinction between a successor and a candidate as one of little moment; for in the eventuality contemplated, the recommendation or favourable opinion of the three Powers could not fail, in the one form or the other, to have great weight with the Greeks, confined as they would be in the field of their selection. His Excellency, moreover, decidedly objected to my inference that he cherished any preference for a Bavarian candidate; such, he said, was by no means the case; his inclinations towards the House of Bavaria did not go beyond the manifestation of that respect for its dignity, and for the engagements which bound us towards it, which he had already defined.

Your Lordship's despatch sets forth the insurmountable objections which Her

Majesty's Government would have to see a Russian Prince on the Throne of Greece, the embarrassment which such a state of affairs would create, and the "direct antagonism" which it would provoke between England and Greece; and affirms, moreover, that Her Majesty's Government would take every fair and honourable means to prevent the Duke of Leuchtenberg from becoming King of Greece.

In regard to the election of a Russian Prince, the Vice-Chancellor observed that the resistance of Her Majesty's Government would never be called into operation, for such an election had never been contemplated for one instant by the Imperial Government; yet he thought, speculatively, that your Lordship's view of the dangers attached to the election of a Prince of one of the great reigning Houses was exaggerated. Under good advice, and with ability and prudence, such a Prince might reign in Greece without exciting the "direct antagonism," the jealousies, and the perils to which Her Majesty's Government had referred.

I said that if the Greeks chose a Prince of one of the great Houses, they would do so with reference to schemes of ulterior aggrandizement. I believed that, under those circumstances, they would never remain quiet; and that, with all the discretion conceivable on the part of their Sovereign and the Protecting Powers, the situation would become at last intolerable.

The passage in your Lordship's instruction suggesting that the Protecting Powers might offer to the Greek Provisional Government the names of Princes qualified to wear the Crown of Greece, provoked some desultory conversation respecting several Princes who are brought by public rumour into the field, or who are supposed to possess the sympathy of the Governments of England or of France. Prince Gortchakoff did not profess any preference for any candidate, but stated that the Imperial Cabinet was willing to take the question into consideration in conjunction with the other Powers.

In the course of my conversation with the Vice-Chancellor, his Excellency alluded again to the contrivances and incitements by which the alleged candidature of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred had been promoted in Greece, to electioneering arts, to the exhibition of specious inducements, the encouragement of hopes, and the distribution of gold. His Excellency did not say that these practices were directed by Her Majesty's Government, but he seemed to refer them generally to English instigation, and to the agency of persons in authority under Her Majesty's Government.

In replying to these observations I contended that for the acts of Greeks settled in England, or for those of Greeks in Greece itself professing sympathy for Great Britain, Her Majesty's Government could not be rendered in any way responsible. With their demonstrations or disbursements (if there had been any) Her Majesty's Government had nothing to do; even Englishmen, unconnected with Government, might do as they pleased, though I doubted whether any such had been mixed up in the recent agitation in Greece; but as for Consular Agents, or other Agents of the English Government, I denied that they had taken any part in stimulating the popular feeling on behalf of an English Prince. If his Excellency would put his finger on any specific act of such a character I would lay it before your Lordship. It would be altogether repugnant to the policy and orders of Her Majesty's Government.

In accepting a copy of your Lordship's despatch the Vice-Chancellor observed that he would not reply to it; he did not see the use of prolonging a controversy which had no practical object; his answer would be found in my report to your Lordship of his remarks in the course of our present conference. I said that in that case I would submit my report to his inspection before transmitting it to your Lordship.

No. 107.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received December 16.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, December 8, 1862.

I READ the draft of my despatch of yesterday's date to Prince Gortchakoff this forenoon. He recognized the accuracy of my report, and made a few alterations rather in the way of retrenchment than of correction. The despatch as it stands is, therefore, an approved record of what passed between us.

The Vice-Chancellor having inspected my despatch, remarked that the reflections which were conveyed in it had merely a speculative significance. The important and practical part had been concluded in London by the declarations exchanged between your Lordship and the Russian Ambassador.

That arrangement was altogether conformable to the sentiments which he had consis-

tently entertained from the beginning, for while he had ever held that the exclusion of the Duke of Leuchtenberg was not deducible from the mere text of the engagements in force on this subject, he had always been of opinion that reasons of policy existed which would debar His Imperial Highness from accepting the Hellenic Throne.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NAPIER.

No. 108.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received December 16.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, December 11, 1862.

PRINCE GORTCHAKOFF showed me a despatch this forenoon, reporting that Count Bloudoff had made his separate declaration at Athens, to the effect that the Government of Russia recognized the force of the Treaty engagements by which the Princes of the reigning Houses of Great Britain, France, and Russia are excluded from the Throne of Greece. I learned from his Excellency at the same time that the Representative of France had done so likewise. The Vice-Chancellor said that Her Majesty's Minister was the only one who had refrained from taking this step; and his Excellency appeared to infer that Her Majesty's Government had some ulterior design or interested motive in hesitating, and standing apart in this matter.

I reminded the Prince that Her Majesty's Government had long ago advised a common declaration at Athens, which he had declined; and I said that your Lordship had now instructed Mr. Scarlett to renew the overture for a joint or separate contemporaneous communication to the Greek Provisional Government, in the sense of the Declaration signed in London. I then made him acquainted with the substance of your Lordship's instruction of the 4th of December to Mr. Scarlett, and I asked him whether he would have any objection that Count Bloudoff should renew his declaration along with Mr. Scarlett, as suggested by your Lordship.

The Vice-Chancellor replied, that when Mr. Scarlett made his proposal to Count Bloudoff the latter would judge whether it would be expedient to renew the declaration or not. Perhaps Count Bloudoff would see no objection to do so.

I said it would not be exactly the same declaration, for that which was advised by Her Majesty's Government alluded to His Royal Highness Prince Alfred and His Imperial Highness the Duke of Leuchtenberg by name; whereas the declaration put in by Count Bloudoff had probably been drawn in general terms.

The Vice-Chancellor said that the views of the two Governments would soon become known by the declarations exchanged in London. That which had been signed by Baron Brunnow had been sent to Moscow for the sanction of His Majesty the Emperor, which would, no doubt, be immediately granted. Your Lordship had been enabled to speak on the same occasion in the name of Her Majesty the Queen. When the assent of the Emperor had been obtained the transaction would be complete. It would convey a full expression of the resolution of the two Cabinets.

I asked the Prince whether, in his opinion, the declarations exchanged in London should be published at once.

Prince Gortchakoff replied, that if Her Majesty's Government thought fit to publish them, he had no objection.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NAPIER.

No. 109.

Earl Cowley to Earl Russell.—(Received December 16.)

(Extract.)

Paris, December 15, 1862.

MR. ELLIOT arrived in Paris yesterday morning on his way to Marseilles, and I took him in the afternoon to M. Drouyn de Lhuys. I will merely observe that the mission with which Mr. Elliot is charged appeared to have the full approbation of the French Minister.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received December 19.)

Sir,

Admiralty, December 18, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, extracts from two letters of Captain Hillyar, of Her Majesty's ship "Queen," dated at the Piræus, the 19th and 29th ultimo, relating to the state of affairs in Greece.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 110.

Captain Hillyar to Vice-Admiral Sir W. Martin.

(Extract.)

"Queen," Piræus, November 19, 1862.

NAUPLIA was perfectly quiet on the 16th instant, after the arrival of Grivas, who had been received with great enthusiasm. The whole of that part of the country which may be considered as having the strongest Russian tendencies in Greece is all in favour of Prince Alfred being their future King.

The Austrian frigate "Novara," with a Commodore's pendant, arrived on the 17th instant; and the Austrian gun-boat "Wall," on the forenoon of the following day. The two French paddle-steamers "Gorgone" and "Mouette" arrived yesterday.

Inclosure 2 in No. 110.

Captain Hillyar to Vice-Admiral Sir W. Martin.

(Extract.)

"Queen," Piræus, November 29, 1862.

HIS French Imperial Majesty's ship "Castiglione," pierced for 108, but mounting 92 guns, arrived here on the 23rd instant, having been ordered to this place from Toulon with all despatch, which port she left on the 18th November.

On the night of the 22nd, another strong demonstration took place at Athens, in favour of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred being elected King of Greece. A large and respectable crowd assembled at the Opera House, where the Prince's portrait, which was exhibited, was most enthusiastically cheered. They then formed a procession and proceeded with torches and candles, collecting several thousands on their way, to the front of the residence of Her Majesty's Minister, where several speeches were made in favour of the Prince, and a great deal of cheering took place for him, as well as for Her Majesty. The Honourable Mr. Scarlett thanked the crowd from his balcony for the good feeling they displayed towards England, after which they dispersed in a most orderly manner.

Similar demonstrations took place at Athens on the following day, as well as at the Piræus, when numbers of boats, filled with respectable Greeks, pulled round Her Majesty's ship "Queen," cheering Prince Alfred.

Large and respectable demonstrations have also taken place at the Islands of Syra, Hydra, and Spezzia, as also at Nauplia, Sparta, and Tripolitza, and other parts of Greece; and there appears to be but one feeling expressed throughout the country as to Prince Alfred being elected their future King.

A slight disturbance took place at Athens on the evening of the 24th, in the cavalry barracks, respecting the removal of one of their officers, which was soon quelled, and the state of Athens continues to be quiet and satisfactory.

Her Majesty's Minister deems it advisable that the "Foxhound" and "Pelican" should be kept at Nauplia and Syra for the present.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received December 20.)

(Extract.)

Athens, December 9, 1862.

I HAD the honour to receive, on the 6th instant, a telegram from your Lordship dated the 4th instant, informing me that instructions addressed to me by your Lordship were already on their way to Athens, with reference to the exclusion both of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred and the Duke of Leuchtenberg from the Throne of Greece, and desiring me to wait until their arrival in order to make known the declaration they contain.

The same day on which I received your Lordship's telegram I was informed that both Count Bloudoff and M. Bourée received from their respective Governments the intelligence that a Protocol* was signed on the 4th instant at the Foreign Office in London, confirming the exclusion of the Princes of the Blood Royal of the Great Powers from the Greek Throne.

M. Bourée called upon me yesterday to inform me that he had received a telegram to this effect, and that he had already been to M. Boulgaris, the President of the Provisional Government, to make to him this communication; and he added that he was instructed to act in concert with my Russian colleague and myself for the purpose of disseminating the news as soon as possible throughout this country.

I said in reply, that as I had not received my instructions I could not act in concert with him and with Count Bloudoff on this subject.

The French and Russian telegrams have produced great depression, but there is, I believe, none the less a determination to go on as before with the plebiscite, the result of which is to be confirmed by the National Assembly.

Out of 4,000 votes taken yesterday in a commune here all were in favour of Prince Alfred, but one which was for the Sultan, provided he would submit to be a Christian.

No. 112.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received December 22.)

(Extract.)

Athens, December 2, 1862.

THE Provisional Government has been urged by the leaders of the Clubs, and by the general expression of public opinion, to order registers to be opened in the different communes of Greece for a plebiscite for the election of a Sovereign, as a preparatory step to a more solemn declaration by the National Assembly, and a Decree for a plebiscite was issued last night, a copy of which I have the honour to inclose.

Inclosure in No. 112.

Decree.

ROYAUME DE GRECE.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire,

Considérant que la volonté du peuple Grec a été manifestée de tout côté et de diverses manières, et voulant qu'il procède lui-même immédiatement à l'élection du Roi,

Décrète—

Article 1. Le peuple Grec est invité à élire le Roi de Grèce par élection directe.

Art. 2. Dans chaque mairie est exposé publiquement un registre dans lequel chaque citoyen Grec ayant accompli sa vingtième année inscrit le nom du Roi auquel il donne son suffrage.

Art. 3. L'ouverture d'élection dans chaque commune est fixée au troisième jour qui suivra la publication du présent Décret. La durée de l'élection sera de dix jours.

Art. 4. Une Commission composée du Maire, du plus âgé des prêtres de la

* There was no such Protocol; only the correspondence with Baron Brunnow.

commune, et de l'instituteur communal, surveillera la votation. Les électeurs qui ne savent pas écrire feront écrire leur nom par le prêtre.

Chaque soir la Commission rédigera sur le registre et signera un procès-verbal. L'élection étant terminée, le registre de chaque commune sera envoyé respectivement à chaque Sous-Préfet ou Préfet, qui le transmettra au Ministère de l'Intérieur, par qui ils seront tous transmis à l'Assemblée Nationale, qui en fera le dépouillement.

L'ouverture du vote aura lieu chaque jour à 9 heures du matin et se terminera à 4 heures après midi.

Art. 5. Hors de l'Etat seront exposées, suivant l'Article 2, dans les Consuls, les Vice-Consulats et les Agences Consulaires, des registres, dans lesquels chaque citoyen Grec demeurant à l'étranger inscrira le nom du Roi auquel il donne son suffrage.

Les Consuls, les Vice-Consuls, ou Agents Consulaires respectifs s'adjoindront deux des principaux sujets Grecs et rempliront les fonctions attribuées à la Commission.

Les autres dispositions du présent Décret sont également applicables à la votation hors de l'Etat.

Art. 6. Le Ministre de l'Intérieur publiera des instructions particulières relativement à la forme des registres.

Athènes, le 1 Décembre, 1862.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire,

(Signed)

D. G. BOULGARIS, *Président.*

C. CANARIS.

B. ROUPHOS.

Les Ministres Secrétaire d'Etat,

(Signé)

D. MAVROMICHALIS.

T. MANGHINAS.

TH. A. ZAIMIS.

ALEX. COUMOUNDOUROS.

E. DELIGEORGIS.

D. CALLIFRONAS.

A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

B. NICOLOPOULOS.

Le Secrétaire-Général,

N. A. CHATZOPOULOS.

(Translation.)

KINGDOM OF GREECE.

The Provisional Government.

Considering that the will of the people of Greece has been manifested everywhere, and in different ways, and being desirous that the people themselves should immediately proceed to the election of a King,

Decrees—

Article 1. The Greek people is invited to elect a King for Greece by direct suffrage.

Art. 2. In every mayoralty is to be exhibited publicly a register, in which each Greek citizen who has accomplished his twentieth year is to inscribe the name of the King to whom he gives his vote.

Art. 3. The commencement of the election in each commune is fixed for the third day after the publication of the present Decree. The election is to last ten days.

Art. 4. A Commission, composed of the Mayor, of the oldest Priest in the commune, and of the Communal Instructor, will superintend the voting. Electors who cannot write will cause their names to be inscribed by the Priest.

Each evening the Commission will draw up and sign a formal deposition in the register at the close of the election. The register of each commune will be sent to each Sub-Prefect or Prefect respectively, who will transmit it to the Ministry of the Interior, by whom they will all be forwarded to the National Assembly, who will open them.

The voting will commence each day at nine in the morning, and will end four hours after noon.

Art. 5. In countries abroad the registers will be exhibited, according to Article 2, in the Consulates, Vice-Consulates, and Consular Agencies, and each Greek citizen will inscribe in these registers the name of the King to whom he gives his vote.

The respective Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular Agents, uniting with them two of the principal Greek subjects, will exercise the functions which devolve upon the Commission.

The other dispositions of the present Decree are also applicable to voting in foreign countries.

Art. 6. The Minister of the Interior will publish particular instructions relative to the form of the Registers.

Athens, December 1, 1862.

The Provisional Government,

(Signed)

D. G. BOULGARIS, *President.*

C. CANARIS.

B. ROUPHOS.

The Ministers of State,

(Signed)

D. MAVROMICHALIS.

T. MANGHINAS.

TH. A. ZAIMIS.

ALEX. COUMOUNDOUROS.

E. DELIGEORGIS.

D. CALLIFRONAS.

A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

B. NICOLOPOULOS.

The Secretary-General,

N. A. CHATZÓPOULOS.

No. 113.

*Earl Russell to Earl Cowley.**

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 20, 1862.

THE MARQUIS OF CADORE called upon me this day at the Foreign Office, by appointment, to read to me the circular of M. Drouyn de Lhuys relating to the affairs of Greece.†

As the circular had already appeared in the newspapers, I did not require M. de Cadore to take the trouble of reading it. But I observed that while M. Drouyn de Lhuys gave, no doubt, an accurate account of the proceedings of his own Government, I could not accept as accurate the account he gave of the conduct of the British Government. But as that conduct would appear in detail in the papers to be laid before Parliament, I did not wish to enter into any discussion on the subject.

The line of Great Britain upon this question has been clear and simple. She might bind herself by a Protocol or a Declaration by which the other two Protecting Powers should be equally bound: or she might, for the sake of British interests, refuse to entangle herself in the politics of Greece, and to separate from her own Royal Family a Prince so near in the order of succession to the Crown. But, as Her Majesty's Government considered the Duke of Leuchtenberg as a Prince of the Imperial Family of Russia, they could not declare themselves to be bound by the Protocol of 1830, without knowing what that Protocol meant. If it was meant that Prince Alfred should be bound to refuse, and Prince Romanoffsky free to accept, the Crown of Greece, that would have been in the eyes of Her Majesty's Government a position of inferiority and inequality which Great Britain could not accept.

The notes exchanged between Baron Brunnov and me, of which I inclose copies,‡ put an end to all question upon this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

RUSSELL.

* Similar despatches were addressed to Lord Napier, Lord Bloomfield, Sir A. Buchanan, Sir J. Crampton, Mr. Elliot (Athens), Sir J. Hudson, Mr. Bonar, Lord Howard de Walden, Sir J. Milbanke, Mr. Paget, Mr. Jerningham, and Sir A. Magenis.

† Dated Paris, December 4, 1862; see Inclosure 1 in No. 134.

‡ Nos. 85 and 86.

No. 114.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received December 22.)

(Extract.)

Athens, December 5, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of November 27th, alluding to the gratifying intelligence that the Provisional Government intend to maintain order at home and to commit no aggression on Turkey, a disposition I have done, and will continue to do, all in my power to encourage.

Although several of my colleagues had made up their minds from the commencement of the Greek Revolution that an occupation of the country by foreign troops was inevitable, I own that of all the revolutions at which I have been present (and the number is not small), I do not recollect to have seen any other conducted with so little danger to life and so much good sense and moderation.

It is true that during the first three days, the outpouring of the prisoners from confinement and the insubordination of the soldiers caused much anxiety and doubt as to the future; but almost immediately after that short interval, the good sense and intelligence of the people resumed the upper hand, and every effort was used, and used successfully, to promote order and tranquillity, in spite of intrigues and political difficulties of a most serious character.

No. 115.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received December 22.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 6, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship copies of despatches from Her Majesty's Consul and Vice-Consuls at Patras and Missolonghi, giving a full account of the state of Western Greece, and of the manifestations of public feeling in favour of England in those districts.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 115.

Vice-Consul Black to Mr. Scarlett.

Sir,

Missolonghi, November 24, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith inclosed, a printed copy of an Act passed by the Municipal Council of this town, this day, by which your Excellency will see they express their hopes and wishes that the King of Greece chosen by the National Assembly should be His Royal Highness Prince Alfred, second son of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

The whole of the inhabitants, who a few days ago were all cast down and melancholy, seem by this act to have taken a new lease of life, and to have recovered their spirits. They consider it as an affair quite settled, and look forward to a future state of great national prosperity.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. BLACK.

Inclosure 2 in No. 115.

Act of Municipal Council of Missolonghi recommending the Election of Prince Alfred as King of Greece.

(Translation.)

THE Municipal Council of Missolonghi, composed of its undersigned members:—

Having, of itself, assembled this day, November $\frac{10}{22}$, 1862, to decide upon the question following:

Whereas the nation is shortly to meet for the election of its Sovereign:

Whereas it is in accordance with the duties of the Council to express its vows and prayers as regards the election of its Sovereign :

Whereas Greece as it now stands holds a maritime and commercial position :

Whereas the Hellenic nation originally, and by tradition and by experience, has always considered itself worthy of Constitutional Government, it is, therefore, necessary that the King of Greece should be of such descent and education as to guarantee the respect due to the Constitution and to the established laws :

Whereas the universal opinion is, that such virtues as eminent prudence and political education are those which distinguish the high person of Prince Alfred, second son of Queen Victoria of Great Britain :

Taking into consideration all these reasons, the Council unanimously and humbly submits to the prudence of the National Assembly and to Government its earnest vows and prayer, as the faithful interpreter of all the Demos which it represents, that His Royal Highness Prince Alfred, second son of Her Majesty Queen Victoria of Great Britain, be elected and consecrated King of Greece.

The Mayor of Missolonghi is charged to communicate copy of the present Act, without delay, to the Nomarch of Acarnania and Ætolia, and through the Nomarch to the Government ; and also to have it printed and placarded in all fitting parts of the town.

Missolonghi, November $\frac{10}{2}$, 1862.

The President,
(Signed) Z. J. BALBIS.
The Members,
Z. P. BALBIS.
P. COSTAKIS.
N. PSOMAKIS.
TH. TRICOUPI.
J. A. GIANNOPOULOS.
D. PALRMAS.
P. SIDERIS.
G. CH. ARTIS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 115.

Consul Ongley to Mr. Scarlett.

(Extract.)

Patras, December 1, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that for some days past there has been an intention of getting up another demonstration in favour of Prince Alfred's becoming King of Greece.

On Saturday, at about 3 o'clock P.M., the Greek merchant-steamer "Hydra," dressed out with flags, and having at the fore a red flag, with "Long live Prince Alfred" on it, took on board a number of Greek officers, gentlemen, &c., and steamed round Her Majesty's ship "Shannon," crying out "Long live Prince Alfred," and fired off a salute of twenty-one guns. At about half-past 5, a large crowd came before the Consulate with torches and lights, and a speech was made by M. Constantine Costaki in Greek, of which the following is a French translation :—

"Le peuple Hellénique, poursuivant le maintien et la fidèle application des institutions Constitutionnelles qui seules peuvent assurer la jouissance de la liberté au milieu de l'ordre légale, et appréciant au plus haut degré les éminentes qualités du Prince Alfred, exprime le vœu que ce digne fils d'une Reine aussi puissante que vertueuse, soit proclamé Roi de Grèce.

"Vous êtes prié, M. le Consul, de porter à la connaissance du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique ce désir partagé de tous les Grecs."

I replied, in Greek, that I thanked them for their sentiments in favour of Prince Alfred, and that I would make known to Her Majesty's Government what they had said.

No. 116.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received December 22.)

(Extract.)

Athens, December 6, 1862.

THE registers for the plebiscite have been opened at Athens to-day, the Holy Synod, consisting of the Venerable Metropolitan and the four Synodical Archbishops and Bishops, heading the voting in favour of Prince Alfred.

No. 117.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received December 22.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, December 15, 1862.

WHEN I was with Prince Gortchakoff this forenoon, his Excellency telegraphed to Count Bloudoff, in reply to an application from that Minister, that he might combine with his English and French colleagues in a joint communication to the Greek Government in the sense of the declarations exchanged in London in relation to the exclusion of Princes of the three reigning Houses from the throne of Greece.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NAPIER.

No. 118.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received December 22.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, December 15, 1862.

I CALLED on Prince Gortchakoff this forenoon, and imparted to his Excellency the substance of your Lordship's telegraphic message of this date, to the effect that overtures had been made to Ferdinand King of Portugal, in reference to the Throne of Greece; that His Majesty's reply had not been encouraging, but that it was not definitively in the negative.

Prince Gortchakoff requested me to thank your Lordship for this communication. His Excellency spoke with respect of the character and capacity of the King, but said that he could give no opinion on the subject of his nomination.

I asked the Vice-Chancellor whether he had any proposal of an original character to submit to the Governments of England and France.

Prince Gortchakoff replied that he had not. Russia had no candidate; and he was ill-prepared to discuss the qualifications of Princes who might be offered to the Greek nation, in consequence of the absence of His Majesty the Emperor. The question was one which demanded personal conference with his Sovereign.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NAPIER.

No. 119.

Baron de Cetto to Earl Russell.—(Received December 23.)

M. le Comte,

Londres, le 23 Décembre, 1862.

DES nouvelles dignes de foi, reçues d'Athènes, donnent à craindre que l'Assemblée Nationale, dont la réunion est prochaine, ne déclare propriété de l'Etat ce qui est propriété particulière du Roi Othon, nommément le Palais qui servait de résidence à Sa Majesté, bien qu'il soit notoire que tout ce qui constitue le domaine privé du Roi, tant en meubles qu'en immeubles, a été acquis des deniers de la Liste Civile, du produit de l'apanage en Bavière, et des revenus provenant du Grand Duché d'Oldenbourg.

Comme pour prévenir un procédé aussi inique et aussi contraire à des droits tenus pour sacrés par la législation de tous les pays, le seul moyen efficace à employer serait que les trois Puissances fondatrices du Royaume de Grèce consentissent à placer sous leur protection la propriété susdite, le Roi mon auguste

Souverain m'a chargé d'en faire la demande au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique et de solliciter l'envoi au Ministre d'Angleterre à Athènes d'instructions conformes au but qu'il s'agit d'atteindre.

En m'acquittant par la présente près votre Excellence des ordres de mon auguste maître, je saisis, &c.

(Signé) A. DE CETTO.

(Translation.)

M. le Comte,

London, December 23, 1863.

NEWS, worthy of credence, received from Athens, lead one to fear that the National Assembly, the meeting of which is at hand, will declare the property of the State that which is the private property of King Otho, viz., the palace which served as a residence for His Majesty, although it is notorious that all that constitutes the King's private domain, as much in moveables as in fixtures, has been acquired by the revenues of the Civil List, by the produce of the allowances in Bavaria, and by the revenues coming from the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg.

In order then to prevent a proceeding so iniquitous and so contrary to rights held sacred by the legislation of all countries, the only effectual means to employ would be that the three Powers who were founders of the Kingdom of Greece should consent to place under their protection the property above-mentioned. The King my august Sovereign has charged me to make this request on the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, and to solicit the despatch of instructions to the English Minister at Athens in conformity with the object in view.

In acquitting myself, by the present despatch to your Excellency, of the orders of my august Master, I seize, &c.

(Signed) A. DE CETTO.

No. 120.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received December 24.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 13, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose an extract from "La Grèce" of the 11th instant, containing a Decree of the Provisional Government for a national loan of 6,000,000 of drachmas. No reliable information concerning the probable success of this measure has as yet reached me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

Inclosure in No. 120.

Extract from "La Grèce" of December 11, 1862.

LES dépenses énormes qu'a eu à supporter le trésor depuis le commencement de cette année, par suite de la marche anti-nationale du système déchu, ont amené les finances de l'Etat dans une situation difficile. La révolution d'Octobre, par laquelle la nation a recouvré ses droits méconnus et foulés aux pieds, en causant de nouveaux besoins, a appelé la sollicitude du Gouvernement Provisoire sur les moyens d'y remédier.

L'offre empressée faite solennellement par nos compatriotes résidant à l'étranger, de venir généreusement en aide au trésor et de lui fournir des ressources en argent, le zèle qu'ont montré à ce sujet les citoyens de toutes les classes, et la noble émulation des fonctionnaires publics à offrir une partie de leur traitement, tout cela témoigne hautement de la pureté du patriotisme des Hellènes, et c'est ce qui a encouragé le Gouvernement Provisoire à rendre le Décret publié par la présente, relativement à un emprunt national de 6,000,000 de drachmes, lequel suffit pour combler les besoins du pays, en même temps qu'il offre à nos compatriotes le moyen de satisfaire leur zèle empressé à porter remède à ces besoins sans s'exposer à aucune perte.

Ce Décret fait voir clairement les obligations de la nation et les droits des prêteurs. Les registres nécessaires pour inscrire les prêteurs seront envoyés aux receveurs des finances et aux autorités Consulaires. Ceux-ci enverront chaque semaine au Ministre de Finances une liste des personnes inscrites, afin que le

Ministre émette et qu'il fasse expédier par les autorités compétentes, des bons du trésor dont le montant aura été déposé.

Les bons sont émis au nom du prêteur ; mais il peut en faire le transport à un tiers par un simple endossement, fait devant les receveurs des finances, ou devant les autorités Consulaires de l'endroit où se trouvent le cédant et le cessionnaire.

Le paiement de l'intérêt annuel sur la présentation des coupons des bons du trésor, le remboursement par le capital d'amortissement des bons tirés au sort chaque année, et la remise de la prime des quatre-vingt-quinze premiers bons sortis de l'urne, seront effectués savoir pour les porteurs de titres résidant dans le royaume, dans les caisses de toutes les provinces de l'Etat ; et pour ceux qui résident à l'étranger, le paiement sera fait à leurs fondés de pouvoirs, à Athènes, à la caisse centrale. Les coupons des bons du trésor de ces prêteurs seront détachés du talon de la souche devant les autorités Consulaires compétentes, suivant les instructions qui leur seront données.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire comptant sur la confiance dont jouit le nouvel ordre de choses, sur le patriotisme de nos compatriotes de tous les pays, et sur les généreux sentiments des phil-Hellènes, espère que cet emprunt national sera accueilli avec empressement et qu'il obtiendra un plein succès.

Decret concernant un Emprunt de 6,000,000.

ROYAUME DE GRECE.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire considérant qu'un grand nombre de citoyens Grecs habitant le royaume ou résidant à l'étranger ont fait connaître leur disposition à prendre part à une souscription en argent dans le but de faire face aux besoins pressants du pays ;

Prenant en considération ces sentiments de patriotisme, et voulant étendre et faciliter la souscription à tous les citoyens Grecs et aux phil-Hellènes, sans qu'ils soient exposés à aucune perte ;

Sur la proposition du Ministre des Finances, et après avoir entendu l'avis du Conseil des Ministres, décrète ce qui suit :—

Article 1. Le Ministre des Finances est autorisé à émettre des bons du Trésor de 100 drachmes, au nom et à la charge de l'Etat, jusqu'à concurrence de 6,000,000 drachmes, à titre d'emprunt national.

Art. 2. Les souscriptions commenceront à partir de la publication du présent Décret, et dureront deux mois consécutifs. Elles seront reçues, à l'intérieur, chez les receveurs des finances, à l'étranger dans les Consulats-Généraux, dans les Consulats, et les Vice-Consulats, où sera versé d'avance l'équivalent des bons du Trésor contre des reçus qui devront être rendus sur la remise des bons.

Art. 3. Les prêteurs recevront sur le capital nominal des bons un intérêt de 6 pour cent ; et le capital sera remboursé par amortissement, selon le mode déterminé dans l'Article suivant.

Art. 4. Un pour cent du capital nominal des bons du Trésor payés chaque année par le Trésor forment le capital d'amortissement de l'emprunt.

Un certain nombre de bons, proportionné au capital annuel d'amortissement, seront remboursés chaque année le 12 Janvier.

Les bons à rembourser chaque année seront désignés par le tirage au sort, qui se fera publiquement, à Athènes, le 22 Octobre de chaque année, au Ministère des Finances, devant une Commission composée du Président de l'Aréopage, du Président de la Cour d'Appel d'Athènes, du Secrétaire-Général du Ministère des Finances, du Directeur de la Comptabilité Générale, du Directeur de la Banque Nationale, et du Vice-Président de la Chambre de Commerce.

Art. 5. Un pour cent du capital primitif de l'emprunt, payé par le Trésor chaque année, est destiné à former une prime, qui sera donnée aux quatre-vingt-quinze premiers numéros sortants des bons tirés au sort chaque année pour être amortis.

Cette prime est répartie de la manière suivante :—

	Dr.
Le 1er bon sortant reçoit	5,000
Le 2me	4,000
Le 3me	3,000
Le 4me	2,000
Le 5me	1,000
Les 90 suivants, du No. 6 à 90, recevront chacun 500 dr.	45,000
	60,000
	Q 2

Jusqu'au remboursement du capital entier de l'emprunt les cinq premiers bons sortants recevront la prime comme il est déterminé ci-dessus ; et le surplus de la prime déterminée à 1 pour cent sur le capital nominal de l'emprunt effectué sera réparti par portion égale aux quatre-vingt-dix autres des premiers bons sortants.

Art. 6. Le paiement de l'intérêt annuel et le remboursement des bons tirés au sort, ainsi que des primes, est fait par le Trésor le 12 Janvier de chaque année.

Le Ministre des Finances est chargé de la publication et de l'exécution du présent Décret.

Athènes, le 3 Décembre, 1862.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire,

(Signé)

D. G. BOULGARIS, *Président.*

C. CANARIS.

B. ROUPHOS.

Les Ministres,

(Signé)

A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

T. MANGHINAS.

A. COUMOUNDOUROS.

TH. ZAIMIS.

D. CALLIFRONAS.

D. MAVROMICHALIS.

C. NICOLOPOULOS.

E. DELIGEORGIS.

Le Secrétaire Général,

(Signé)

N. A. CHATSPOULOS.

Vu et scellé du Grand Sceau de l'Etat.

Athènes, le 3 Décembre, 1862.

Le Ministre de la Justice,

(Signé)

A. COUMOUNDOUROS.

No. 121.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received December 26.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, December 21, 1862.

THE Minister of Bavaria at this Court has been instructed to state to Prince Gortchakoff that His Bavarian Majesty attaches great importance to the preservation of the Crown of Greece in his family, and will be happy to entertain any overtures which may be made to him with a view to the selection of a Sovereign for Greece in his House. It is hinted in such a case the ex-King Otho might be disposed to make a formal act of abdication.

Prince Gortchakoff has not given any decided reply to the overtures of Baron Perglas.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

NAPIER.

No. 122.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received December 29.)

Sir,

Admiralty, December 26, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter from Captain Hillyar, of Her Majesty's ship "Queen," dated the 12th instant, with copy of its inclosure, relating to the state of affairs in Greece.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

W. G. ROMAINE.

Captain Hillyar to Vice-Admiral Sir W. Martin.

(Extract.)

"Queen," Piræus, December 12, 1862.

VERY great disappointment is felt at Athens at the British Minister having received yesterday confirmation of a telegram which reached the French Minister three days since, and which the Greeks would not believe, that a Protocol had been signed in London on the 4th instant by the three Powers, excluding any of their Royal Princes reigning as King of Greece, and that England had refused Prince Alfred.

Notwithstanding, the elections continue to be carried on, and are unanimously in his favour. In Athens alone, up to yesterday evening, 7,636 votes had been registered for the Prince, and only three for a Republic.

In other parts of the country they are equally unanimous; in fact, nothing can exceed the enthusiastic feeling displayed by all ranks for His Royal Highness.

The elections began on the 6th instant by the Archbishop and all the heads of the Church assembling in the Cathedral, when, after offering up prayers for the Greek nation and Prince Alfred, they all registered their names at the head of the poll, and their example was followed by the Government and principal inhabitants.

From the best information I have been able to obtain, and which I think may be relied on, the present intention of the Greek nation is, as soon as the Assembly meets, to petition the three Powers to annul the Protocol, and to beseech England to allow Prince Alfred to be their King.

The greatest order prevailed at Athens during both elections, as also at the islands and other parts of Greece excepting in the neighbourhood of Argos, where some electioneering riots are said to have taken place.

The election for the Assembly terminated yesterday, and no votes for the future King will be received after the 14th instant.

The "Pelican" arrived here yesterday from Syra. I inclose a letter of proceedings from Commander the Honourable A. C. Hobart, of Her Majesty's ship "Foxhound."

The French line of battle ship "Castiglione" left the Piræus on the 7th instant for Toulon, calling at Nauplia, where she remained only a few hours. A French frigate, "Magicienne," is, I believe, on her way from Toulon to Patras, to increase the French squadron in the Levant.

Inclosure 2 in No. 122.

Commander Hobart to Captain Hillyar.

Sir,

"Foxhound," Nauplia, December 7, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that there have been several disturbances in different places in this Gulf since my last despatch, of more or less importance, and in which lives were lost. At Argos, there appears every probability of a faction fight during the elections; there are, at least, ten candidates for Nauplia alone, which place returns two members.

2. At a place of some importance, about fourteen miles from hence, on the east coast of this Gulf, called Kranidi, there has been a serious disturbance. Being out in the Gulf for the purpose of exercising, I anchored for a day at that place.

3. I purpose remaining off Nauplia until some days after the elections, when, if all is quiet, I will leave (waiting the arrival of the next mail, due on the 14th), and, after showing the British flag at different ports between this and Athens, I shall rejoin you at the Piræus, in doing which I trust I am carrying out the spirit of your orders, and that I shall meet your approval.

4. The elections commenced here yesterday. In spite of precautions taken by the authorities, who only allowed a few voters, unarmed, from the country into the town at a time, a murder was committed yesterday outside the gates. The murderer has taken refuge in the Castle of Palamedi, with the troops, and as yet has not been given up. I am unable to acquaint you with the progress of events in the neighbouring places which return members, but hope to in my next letter. It appears that each voter, after he puts down the name of the candidate he prefers,

records his vote for Prince Alfred as King of Greece. This has been almost universal.

5. MM. Riza Palamedis and Tabacopoulos, two party leaders, have arrived here, and started immediately into the interior as candidates for election. Their arrival has created some alarm amongst the people.

I have, &c.

(Signed) AUGUSTUS C. HOBART.

No. 123.

Earl Russell to Baron de Cetto.

M. le Baron,

Foreign Office, December 29, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 23rd instant, requesting the good offices of Her Majesty's Government in protecting the palace and private property of the King of Greece from confiscation by the National Assembly, and I have the honour to inform you that Her Majesty's Government will not fail to take the matter into their most serious consideration.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL

No. 124.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received December 31.)

(Extract.)

Athens, December 15, 1862.

I DULY received your Lordship's despatch of the 4th instant, inclosing copies of the notes exchanged between your Lordship and Baron Brunnow with reference to the exclusion of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred and the Duke of Leuchtenberg from the Greek Throne, together with the terms of a declaration to be signed by my French and Russian colleagues and myself to the same effect, for presentation to the Greek Provisional Government.

The joint note, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, has been signed by my two colleagues in the original terms proposed by me in strict accordance with your Lordship's instructions.

Inclosure in No. 124.

Joint Note addressed by the Representatives of the three Protecting Powers to the Provisional Government.

LES Soussignés, Ministres de France, de Grande Bretagne, et de Russie, ont l'honneur de porter à la connaissance de M. Boulgaris l'engagement pris le 4 de ce mois par les trois Cours et revêtu le même jour de la signature de leurs Plénipotentiaires :—

“La France, la Grande Bretagne, et la Russie se déclarent liées par l'engagement qu'aucun membre des Familles Impériales et Royales régnant sur les trois Etats ne pourraient ou accepter ou porter la Couronne de Grèce.

“En conséquence ni Son Altesse Royale Monseigneur le Prince Alfred, membre de la Famille Royale d'Angleterre, ni Son Altesse Impériale Monseigneur le Prince Romanoffsky, Duc de Leuchtenberg, membre de la famille Impériale de Russie, ne pourraient accepter la Couronne de Grèce si elle était offerte par la nation Hellénique.”

Les Soussignés, &c.

(Signé)

P. BOUREE.

P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

BLODOFF.

(Translation.)

THE Undersigned, Ministers of France, of Great Britain, and of Russia, have the honour to bring to the knowledge of M. Boulgaris the engagement taken on

the 4th instant by the three Courts, and signed on the same day by their Plenipotentiaries:—

“France, Great Britain, and Russia declare themselves bound by the engagement that no member of the Imperial and Royal families reigning in the three States can either accept, or wear the Crown of Greece.

“In consequence neither His Royal Highness Prince Alfred, a member of the Royal family of England, nor His Imperial Highness Prince Romanoffsky, Duke of Leuchtenberg, a member of the Imperial family of Russia, could accept the Crown of Greece if it were offered by the Hellenic nation.”

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

P. BOUREE.

P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

BLOUDOFF.

No. 125.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received December 31.)

(Extract.)

Athens, December 15, 1862.

I HAVE, in accordance with your Lordship's instruction by telegram dated 10th instant, conveyed to M. Boulgaris, the President of the Provisional Government, on whom I called for the purpose, the intelligence that Mr. Henry Elliot is now on his way to Athens, and that he would be the bearer of proposals with reference to the present position of affairs in Greece, which Her Majesty's Government trusted would be acceptable to the Greek people.

M. Boulgaris replied that he had already heard of Mr. Elliot's mission by a telegram from M. Tricoupi from London, and that I might be sure the Provisional Government would pay every respect and attention to any proposition coming from Great Britain.

No. 126.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received December 31.)

(Extract.)

Athens, December 17, 1862

I HAVE the honour to inclose the final numbers of the votes registered in the plebiscite at Athens for the election of a new King.

The votes amount in all to 10,107, out of which 9,989 were given exclusively for His Royal Highness Prince Alfred.

The 118 remaining were given in the manner recorded in the list accompanying this despatch. Only four votes have been recorded for the Duc de Leuchtenberg.

I understand that the whole population of the Island of Spezzia voted for Prince Alfred, and actually nearly every vote given has been registered for the name of His Royal Highness throughout Greece.

I observe in some of the newspapers lately received from England, that Her Majesty's Government is blamed for not announcing sooner to the Greeks that His Royal Highness Prince Alfred could not accept the throne, and that I ought to have been instructed earlier on this point. To this it may with perfect justice be replied, that at the very outset of this movement your Lordship did instruct me to state to the Greek Government the belief of Her Majesty's Government that both Prince Alfred and the Duc de Leuchtenberg were excluded under the Protocol of 1830; an instruction which I did not fail to carry immediately into effect by reading both your Lordship's telegrams and despatch to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Provisional Government.

Inclosure in No. 126.

List of Votes.

Number of names inscribed, 10,107.

For Alfred or a Republic	..	..	..	..	..	90
„ Alfred or death	..	..	..	..	..	12
„ Leuchtenberg	..	..	..	..	..	4
„ Republic ..	..	..	..	..	..	7
„ Comte de Flandres ..	..	..	..	..	..	3
„ Alfred or Garibaldi..	..	..	..	..	..	1
„ Mc Mahon	..	..	..	..	..	1
						118
„ Prince Alfred	..	..	..	..	..	9,989
Total	..	..	..	..	..	10,107

No. 127.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received December 31.)

(Extract.)

Athens, December 19, 1862.

I AM informed that at Amphis, the capital of the Parnassus district, all the population entitled to register votes, voted without exception in favour of Prince Alfred.

Reports are current that some troubles have occurred at Argos, owing to the insubordination and indiscipline of the soldiers (I inclose report of Commander Hobart concerning those troubles), but I am not aware that any serious violation of the peace has occurred in any part of Greece during the period of the election of deputies for the Assembly.

I inclose communications from Her Majesty's Consul at Syra, and from Her Majesty's Vice-Consuls at Patras and Missolonghi, with reference to the elections; and I also forward to your Lordship the copy of a letter I received this morning from M. Stavros, the Director of the National Bank at Athens, expressing the unalterable determination of the Greek nation to elect Prince Alfred as their King in spite of the Protocols of exclusion.

Inclosure 1 in No. 127.

Commander Hobart to Captain Hillyar.

Sir,

“Foxhound,” Nauplia, December 14, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the state of the country here since the elections is most unsatisfactory. At Argos the elections have been suspended through the violent conduct of M. Mavromichali, nephew of the Minister of War, who forcibly seized upon the urn containing the votes of the electors, drove the Mayor out of the place, and is carrying on a system of intimidation and tyranny of a most dangerous nature.

The soldiers here who were not included in the late promotions have broken out into open mutiny and left the town, and are now living by means of pillage. One of them was killed during an attack they made on a village some days ago.

An Ionian subject living on the opposite side of the Gulf has been illused and his house damaged, and there is literally no authority from whom to ask satisfaction.

The authorities of Nauplia declare their inability to do more than protect the people in the town. They have formed themselves into a Committee of Safety, and are keeping the gates closed, allowing no suspected or armed party to enter. The troops are not in any way to be trusted; the country is in a most disorganized state, and there is no law but that of force.

Under these circumstances I cannot think it right that this place should be left without a ship of war. Perhaps a few days may quiet the present excitement. I shall not, however, leave till I hear from you again.

I visited Pulithia and Kranidi during the past week.

I have, &c.

(Signed) AUGUSTUS C. HOBART.

“Queen,” December 17, 1862.

Forwarded for the information of the Hon. P. C. Scarlett, C.B., &c.

(Signed) CHARLES F. HILLYAR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 127.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Scarlett.

(Extract.)

Syra, December 16, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the annexed list of the eight successful candidates for Deputies to the National Assembly as elected in Lower Syra or Hermopolis, Old or Upper Syra, and in the Island of Miconi, all of whom, with the exception of M. Paleologo, who has not voted, have already, as I am informed, voted at the Demarchia in favour of Prince Alfred.

The election for a King of Greece has terminated in this lower town as follows: For Prince Alfred 5,012 votes; for the Duke of Leuchtenberg 12.

All continues perfectly quiet here, and there appears every intention of the most influential people to prevent if possible any disorders that would give a pretext for foreign intervention.

LIST of Deputies chosen for—

	Hermopolis. (Lower Town.)	Syra. (Upper Town.)	Miconi, Island of.	Total Number of Votes.
Plati (Lawyer and native of Scio)	1,212	888	626	2,726
M. Canaris (Naval officer, of Psara)	1,118	889	641	2,648
G. J. Paleologo (Lawyer, of Smyrna)	976	629	626	2,231
G. Beaki (Lawyer, of Trieste)	953	675	553	2,183
L. Enmoropulo (Merchant, of Scio)	1,160	382	609	2,151
A. Giustiniano (no profession, of Old Syra) ..	636	892	505	2,033
M. E. Salvago (Merchant, of Scio)	934	287	523	1,744
— Antippas (Doctor of Medicine, of Cephallonia) ..	904	112	518	1,534

Inclosure 3 in No. 127.

Consul Wood to Mr. Scarlett.

Sir,

Patras, December 14, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that the Patras elections for the Deputies to the National Assembly have terminated.

The votes given were, for—

	Votes.		Votes.
Thanos Kanakaris	6,945	Panagiotti Theophila	6,896
A. C. Londos	6,932	A. Rigopoulos	209
A. Papadiamandopoulos	6,924	P. Sinodinos	23
G. Rouffos	6,887	J. D. Gianopoulos	31
A. Bocauris	6,902	D. Patrinos	25
Constantine Costaki	6,893	P. Calamoydarti	15
P. Calikiopoulos	6,843		

The first eight are elected, and are all candidates devoted to M. Benizellis Rouffos. The greatest tranquillity has been preserved, and no violence or attempts at coercion have been made either in the town or country.

At Vostizza, I am informed that the elections have terminated in favour of the candidates who support the Provisional Government.

A private telegram was received yesterday, stating that the Ionian Islands were to be delivered at once to Greece, and a demonstration was got up in the evening, which went round the town with torchlights and shouting "Zeto Prince Alfred, Zeto i Enosis, Zeto i Anglia."

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS WOOD.

Inclosure 5 in No. 127.

Vice-Consul Black to Mr. Scarlett.

(Extract.)

Missolonghi, December 12, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that the elections passed off quietly. We shall not know the result of the opening of the ballot boxes of the 4 Demi before the mail leaves, but it is well known that the successful candidates

are, Balbi, former Minister; Deligeorgis, Minister of Public Instruction; Stamos Makri; Spiro Valtinos. All these have promised their constituents to vote for Prince Alfred.

I understand from the Nomarch that the successful candidates in the Xeromeri are D. Grivas, Christo Gardikiotis Grivas, Katsi Kostathi, Tatzelos Mavromatis, Petmesis, George Stelios, all young men.

Some Ionians settled in the neighbouring villages have been ill-treated. The authorities promise me everything shall be done for their protection.

Inclosure 6 in No. 127.

M. Stavros to Mr. Scarlett.

M. le Ministre,

Athènes, ce 7^e Décembre, 1862.

LE moment approche où un Envoyé Extraordinaire de la Grande Bretagne doit se rendre au milieu de nous.

Il est bon que ce personnage sache bien que la résolution spontanée et unanime de la nation Grecque à élire le Prince Alfred découle de la conscience des véritables intérêts Helléniques. Au moment où l'Europe Occidentale désire la paix du monde, d'autres populations en Orient se préparent à de soulèvements. La Grèce, comprenant mieux ses intérêts, désire rester tranquille, et c'est pourquoi elle a la résolution inébranlable de persister dans son choix, et la conviction qu'en persistant elle finira par vaincre tous les obstacles qui se présentent aujourd'hui à l'avènement de Son Altesse Royale le Prince Alfred.

Je prie votre Excellence de prendre en bonne part les réflexions que je me permets de lui soumettre, réflexions qui me sont suggérées par ma longue expérience et le sincère amour que je porte à mon pays.

Je prie votre Excellence de croire à ma reconnaissance et à mon dévouement.

(Signé) STAVROS.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre,

Athens, December 7th, 1862.

THE moment approaches when an Envoy Extraordinary from Great Britain will appear among us.

It is proper that this personage should well know that the spontaneous and unanimous resolution of the Greek nation to elect Prince Alfred originates from a knowledge of the true interests of Greece. At the time when Western Europe desires the peace of the world, other populations in the East prepare themselves for revolt. Greece, better comprehending her interests, desires to remain quiet, and it is for this reason that she has taken the unalterable resolution to persist in her choice, and that she is convinced that in so persisting she will end by overcoming all the obstacles which at this moment present themselves to the accession of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred.

I beg your Excellency to receive in good part the observations which I take the liberty to offer to you, observations which are suggested to me by my long experience and by the sincere love which I have for my country.

I beg, &c.

(Signed) STAVROS.

No. 128.

Earl Cowley to Earl Russell.—(Received December 31.)

My Lord,

Paris, December 30, 1862.

ALTHOUGH not specially instructed to do so, I read yesterday to M. Drouyn de Lhuys your Lordship's despatch of the 20th instant, stating the conversation which you had had with the Marquis de Cadore relative to M. Drouyn de Lhuys' circular on the Greek Succession question, and to the line of conduct which Her Majesty's Government had pursued with reference to it. I then referred to the various conversations which I had had with his Excellency upon the subject,

and said that I could not conceive that he should have understood Her Majesty's Government in any other light than that represented in your Lordship's despatch.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys replied that he concurred entirely in the accuracy of your Lordship's statements.

I have, &c.
(Signed) COWLEY.

No. 129.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received December 31.)

Sir,

Admiralty, December 30, 1862.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter from Captain Hillyar, of Her Majesty's ship "Queen," dated the 20th instant, with copy of its inclosure, relating to the state of affairs in Greece.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 129.

Captain Hillyar to Vice-Admiral Sir W. Martin.

(Extract.)

"Queen," off Athens, December 20, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that since my letter of proceedings of the 12th instant, no change has taken place at Athens. The elections for the future King of Greece have ended unanimously throughout the country and islands in favour of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred. In Athens 10,107 votes were registered for the Prince, and only three for a Republic, and two for the Duke of Leuchtenberg. The Greeks still entertain hopes of carrying out the national wish notwithstanding that the Ministers of France, Great Britain, and Russia, have informed the Provisional Government that Prince Alfred could not be their future King. The private telegrams which have been received at Athens from the Greek Minister in London "that the Ionian Islands would be ceded to Greece without reserve, if they agree to receive Don Fernando of Portugal as their future King" is being very strongly canvassed in Athens, and the arrival of the Hon. H. Elliot on a special mission is anxiously expected.

The Hon. P. C. Scarlett, deeming the Marine guard no longer necessary at the Embassy, they were withdrawn on the 17th instant, and, at his request, two orderlies were substituted for them. The French, Russian, and Austrian guards, still continue at their respective Embassies.

I beg to inclose the copy of a letter of proceedings from Her Majesty's ship "Foxhound." As Commander Hobart states that affairs at Nauplia are unsatisfactory I have directed him to remain there until relieved by the "Pelican," which vessel I intend to despatch from the Piræus for that purpose on the arrival of the "Alacrity."

Inclosure 2 in No. 129.

Commander Hobart to Captain Hillyar, December 14, 1862.

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 127.]

No. 130.

Mr. H. Elliot to Earl Russell.—(Received January 3, 1863.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 25, 1862.

I ARRIVED at Athens on the 23rd instant, and immediately took steps for seeing M. Boulgaris, the President of the Provisional Government, and M. Diamantopoulos, the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

M. Boulgaris does not speak French, and I was, therefore, obliged to communicate to him through an interpreter the substance of the instructions I had received from your Lordship.

He asked if I could let him have a copy of them, to which I replied that I was not authorized to do so, but that I would give him unofficially a paper embodying the substance of what I had just communicated. I have the honour to inclose herewith a copy of the document which I sent to him, in the form of an unsigned Memorandum.

Both M. Boulgaris and M. Diamantopoulos expressed in lively terms their deep sense of the sympathy and goodwill towards Greece of which Her Majesty's Government have given proof, and alluded to the universal and spontaneous burst of enthusiasm which has animated the whole Greek nation towards Her Majesty, the Royal family, and Great Britain in general.

I replied that it was impossible for an Englishman not to be moved by such a universal exhibition of the admiration felt for our Sovereign, and by the recognition of the blessing of the free institutions under which it is our happiness to live.

I then inquired, now that they are aware that His Royal Highness Prince Alfred cannot be their King, what were their views and intentions regarding the choice of a Sovereign, adding that Her Majesty's Government considered that King Ferdinand of Portugal united in his person more of the necessary qualifications than any other Prince who had been thought of.

I found that notwithstanding the presentation of the formal note upon the subject by Mr. Scarlett, the two Ministers had apparently continued to look upon Prince Alfred as the only possible King, and they told me plainly that they had not thought of any one else.

I took the liberty of pointing out that when the impossibility of His Royal Highness's acceptance became apparent, it seemed that in the interest of Greece they would do well to endeavour to lead the public mind to look towards an eligible candidate, and that no good would come of continuing obstinately to shut their eyes to the fact that another choice must be made. I was aware, I said, that there had been some wild talk about the injustice of our depriving the Greeks of their liberty of choosing whom they pleased, but they must allow me to say that it would be preposterous to pretend that Her Majesty had not an equal right to decline permitting a member of her family to accept a foreign Crown. Her Majesty's Government, I continued, had not the slightest wish to deprive the Greek nation of perfect liberty in selecting their future King; they considered King Ferdinand the most eligible candidate, but had no intention of imposing him or any one else upon the Greeks: all that they did expect was, that the same moderation which has hitherto marked the revolution would be continued, and that a Sovereign may be chosen who may be a guarantee of order at home and in the foreign relations of the country, so as to enable Her Majesty to carry out her intention of ceding to Greece the Ionian Islands, and thus giving the strongest possible evidence of a desire to advance the prosperity of the nation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 130.

Memorandum.

IT is Her Majesty's earnest desire to contribute to the welfare and prosperity of Greece.

The Treaties of 1827 and 1832 bear evidence of this desire on the part of the British Crown.

The Provisional Government of Greece declared, upon the withdrawal of King Otho from Greece, that their mission is to maintain for Greece Constitutional Monarchy and the relations of peace with all other States.

If the new Assembly of the Representatives of the Greek nation should prove faithful to this declaration, should maintain Constitutional Monarchy, and should refrain from all aggression against neighbouring States, and if they should choose a Sovereign against whom no well-founded objection could be raised, Her Majesty would see in this course of conduct a promise of future freedom and happiness for

Greece. In such a case, Her Majesty, with a view to strengthen the Greek Monarchy, would be ready to announce to the Senate and Representatives of the Ionian Islands Her Majesty's wish to see them united to the Monarchy of Greece, and form, with Greece, one united State; and if this wish should be expressed also by the Ionian Legislature, Her Majesty would then take steps for obtaining the concurrence of the Powers who were parties to the Treaty by which the seven Ionian Islands and their Dependencies were placed as a separate State under the Protectorate of the British Crown.

I am to take care, in my communications upon this subject, to make it understood that the election of a Prince who should be the symbol and precursor of revolutionary disturbance, or of the adoption of an aggressive policy towards Turkey, would prevent any relinquishment of Her Majesty's Protectorate of the Ionian Islands.

Her Majesty's Government trust that in the selection of a Sovereign to rule over Greece, the Greek Assembly will choose for their King a Prince from whom they can expect a regard for religious liberty, a respect for constitutional freedom, and a sincere love of peace. A Prince possessing these qualities will be fitted to promote the happiness of Greece, and will be honoured with the friendship and confidence of Her Majesty the Queen.

No. 131.

Mr. H. Elliot to Earl Russell.—(Received January 3, 1863.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 25, 1862.

AS some time had already passed since the Greek Government and nation had been officially informed by the Representatives of the three Powers that neither Prince Alfred nor the Duke of Leuchtenberg could accept the Crown of Greece if it should be offered to them, I expected on my arrival at Athens to find that the merits at least of the different possible candidates would have been canvassed and discussed.

Nothing, however, could be more completely erroneous than this expectation.

The idea of having Prince Alfred for their King had acquired such an absolute hold over the nation that they cling to it with passion, and have hitherto resolutely persisted in refusing to recognize the impossibility of the realization of their hopes, and from the moment of my arrival I have spared no pains in endeavouring to put an end to all illusion upon this head.

This morning I was waited upon by a deputation from one of the three political clubs of Athens, which desired to express the unanimous wish of the Greek nation to be ruled over by Prince Alfred; and the letter of which I have the honour to inclose a copy was read to me by the President in the name of the rest of the members.

I replied by thanking these gentlemen for the manner in which they alluded to the Queen, to His Royal Highness, and to the British nation in general; but I said that, however much I must regret that the first communication I had to make should be of a nature to produce disappointment in a people who were just giving such a flattering proof of their feelings towards us, I should not be justified if I did not seize the very earliest opportunity of pointing out that they were aiming at what is absolutely impossible, reminding them that Her Majesty's Government had just taken a solemn engagement not to accept the Crown for Prince Alfred, if it should be offered to His Royal Highness. I begged them not to consider this a mere form of words, which might afterwards be set aside, but to regard it as an irrevocable determination which could not be departed from without a flagrant breach of good faith.

I told them that Her Majesty's Government having looked round to find the Prince who would be most likely to contribute to the prosperity of Greece, considered that it was King Ferdinand of Portugal who appeared to possess in the highest degree the necessary qualifications.

The deputation seemed much disappointed at hearing so plainly that they must abandon all hopes of Prince Alfred, but they expressed neither approval nor disapprobation at the mention of King Ferdinand, beyond a passing allusion to his religion and to the want of an heir after his death.

The club is not composed of persons of any considerable weight, but it may

perhaps become a channel through which the public will learn that His Royal Highness Prince Alfred must not now be looked upon as eligible for their Crown.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 131.

Letter presented to Mr. Elliot by a Deputation of a Political Club.

Excellence,

Athènes, le 13³/₅ Décembre, 1862.

LE club que j'ai l'honneur de présider, informé de votre heureuse arrivée au milieu de nous, nous a chargé de nous présenter à votre Excellence pour vous faire ses compliments de bienvenue.

Notre club, pas plus que le peuple Hellène, n'ignore les sentiments philhelléniques de votre Excellence, ni les services signalés que vous avez rendus à la grande cause de la liberté et à celle des nationalités.

Nous apprécions tous à leur juste valeur le caractère loyal et chevaleresque de la grande nation que vous représentez, ainsi que du Gouvernement Britannique, et nous savons que la Grande Bretagne a toujours été, dans les temps modernes, la terre classique de la liberté et l'initiatrice des peuples à la vie constitutionnelle.

Ces considérations ont déterminé le peuple Hellène à offrir d'un commun accord la couronne de Grèce à Son Altesse Royale le Prince Alfred d'Angleterre. Ce choix n'est point l'effet d'un engouement irréfléchi, ni d'un entraînement passager : il est le résultat d'une conviction raisonnée et profonde.

Nous prions donc votre Excellence de vouloir bien être auprès de Sa Majesté la Reine Victoria, ainsi qu'auprès de l'Élu de la nation, le fidèle interprète des sentiments et de la volonté du peuple Hellène et de solliciter de votre Gouvernement de travailler à l'aplanissement des difficultés diplomatiques qui peuvent s'opposer encore à la réalisation du vœu national. L'histoire contemporaine nous offre plus d'un exemple d'arrangements politiques conformes aux vœux des peuples et en opposition avec l'esprit et la lettre des Traités antérieurs.

Votre Excellence connaît mieux que nous cette vérité incontestable, et nous osons par conséquent espérer que vous vous employerez vous-même à écarter, par votre influence personnelle, tous les obstacles qui s'opposent à l'accomplissement de nos vœux en faveur du fils puîné de Sa Majesté votre gracieuse Souveraine.

Le Président du club "L'Opinion Nationale," et de la députation

envoyée auprès de votre Excellence,

(Signed) D. A. N. GOUDAS.

(Translation.)

Excellency,

Athens, December 13³/₅, 1862.

THE Club over which I have the honour to preside has heard of your safe arrival amongst us, and has directed us to present ourselves to your Excellency for the purpose of offering you a welcome.

Our club is not ignorant any more than is the Greek people of the philhellenic sentiments of your Excellency, nor the signal services which you have rendered to the cause of liberty and to that of nationalities.

We appreciate at their true value the chivalrous and loyal character of the great nation which you represent, as well as the British Government, and we know that Great Britain has always been in modern times the classic land of liberty, and the instructress of nations in constitutional existence.

These considerations have determined the Greek people to offer, by common accord, the Crown of Greece to His Royal Highness Prince Alfred of England. This choice is not the result of an unreflective impulse, nor of a passing fancy. It is the result of a reasonable and profound conviction.

We therefore pray your Excellency to be the faithful interpreter of the sentiments and wishes of the Greek people to Queen Victoria and to the chosen Prince, and to solicit your Government to labour to overcome the diplomatic difficulties which may oppose themselves to the realization of the national desires. Contemporary history offers us more than one example of political arrangements conforming to the wishes of nations when these wishes were in opposition to the spirit and the letter of Treaties.

Your Excellency knows better than we do this incontestable truth, and we

venture, in consequence, to hope that you will devote yourself to remove, by your personal influence, the obstacles which oppose the accomplishment of our aspirations in favour of the second son of Her Majesty, your gracious Sovereign.

Le President of the Club "L'Opinion Nationale," and of
the Deputation sent to your Excellency,
(Signed) D. A. N. GOUDAS.

No. 132.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received January 3, 1863.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 26, 1862.

SEVERAL public prints have alluded to a strong note said to have been addressed by the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Government at Constantinople, through the Greek Chargé d'Affaires, complaining of the warlike measures taken by the Turks in Epirus and Thessaly. It has even been asserted that Turkish troops had crossed the frontiers of Greece.

My Turkish colleague informs me that owing to a report that Omar Pasha had entered Epirus with 4,000 men, and had formed a camp near the Greek frontier, the Greek Chargé d'Affaires had made verbal inquiries on this subject, and had received in reply the assurance that the report was without foundation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

No. 133.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received January 3, 1863.)

(Extract.)

Athens, December 26, 1862.

THE Greek National Assembly met for the first time, at Athens, on Monday the 22nd instant.

Although its members were not in sufficient numbers to constitute it legally, according to the system adopted from the time of Count Capo d'Istria in other Assemblies, seventy-two members only being present, the Assembly went through the forms prescribed.

The proceedings of inauguration commenced by a prayer for the repose of the souls of the victims of the War of Independence. After this, the Minister of War, M. Mavromichalis, declared that the Archbishop performing this function had omitted to pray especially, as he said he might have done, for the Patriarch Gregory of Constantinople, who was hanged by the Sultan at the outbreak of the Greek War of Independence in 1822, as well as for the Bishop of Patras, who was the first to raise the standard of revolt in the Peloponnessus.

These omissions were supplied by the acquiescence of the Archbishop; after which an oath was administered to those members present, in the same form as that taken by the Provisional Government on the day succeeding the late revolution.

An objection was made to the necessity of taking any oath at all by Colonel Coroneos, who is at the head of the National Guard, but this objection was overruled.

The Assembly elected, according to custom, the "doyen" or eldest of its members present, M. Criesis, provisionally as its President, and the meeting was then adjourned until Monday next, when the necessary members will have had time to arrive to constitute a legal Assembly for the transaction of business.

The Diplomatic Body at Athens were officially invited to assist at the ceremony, in a tribune reserved for the occasion, but as none of them are accredited to the Provisional Government of Greece, the invitation was, of course, of no avail.

I have herewith the honour to inclose a copy of the "Grèce" which contains an official account of the first meeting of the Assembly.

Extract from "La Grèce" of December 25, 1862.

Athènes, le 24 Décembre, 1862.

LUNDI dernier a eu lieu l'ouverture de l'Assemblée Nationale. A dix heures et demie le Saint Synode, les hauts fonctionnaires de l'Etat, les autorités civiles et militaires se sont rendus au Palais Législatif, et ont occupé les places qui leur avaient été désignées.

A onze heures les membres du Gouvernement Provisoire, les Ministres Secrétaires d'Etat et le Secrétaire-Général du Gouvernement Provisoire se sont rendus au Palais de l'Assemblée.

A onze heures et demie sont arrivés MM. les Représentants, qui ont été reçus dans sa salle des séances par le Gouvernement Provisoire et par les Ministres.

La Garde Nationale et les troupes de ligne qui formaient la haie aux abords de l'Assemblée, ont rendu les honneurs aux Représentants, aux membres du Gouvernement Provisoire, et aux Ministres.

A midi l'Archevêque d'Athènes, assisté des prêtres et des diacres de l'église métropolitaine a béni le palais et a lu les prières d'usage dans de pareilles circonstances.

Après la bénédiction, MM. les Représentants ont fait le serment déterminé par le Décret du 18 Décembre : en même temps une salve de vingt-un coups de canon a annoncé cette cérémonie solennelle.

Ensuite les Représentants ont nommé comme Président d'âge M. D. Criezi, un des Représentants de l'île d'Hydra, Colonel de la phalange et ancien Préfet. Plusieurs étrangers de distinction assistaient à cette cérémonie. Il y avait une grande affluence de monde dans la salle des séances et aux abords du palais.

Le soir les établissements publics et beaucoup de maisons particulières ont été illuminés, et la musique militaire a joué des airs nationaux sur la Place de la Concorde.

No. 134.

Lord Napier to Earl Russell.—(Received January 5, 1863.)

(Extract.)

St. Petersburg, December 26, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith two extracts of the official journal of the 24th instant, containing respectively a circular despatch addressed by M. Drouyn de Lhuys to the Diplomatic Agents of France on the 4th instant, and one from Prince Gortchakoff to the Imperial Ministers abroad under date of December $\frac{2}{14}$, both having reference to the election to the throne of Greece.

Inclosure 1 in No. 134.

Extract from the "Journal de St. Pétersbourg" of December $\frac{12}{24}$, 1862.

VOICI, d'après "l'Indépendance Belge," le texte de la note-circulaire de M. Drouyn de Lhuys au sujet des affaires de la Grèce :—

"Paris, le 4 Décembre, 1862.

"Les événements de la Grèce ont, depuis quelques jours, vivement occupé l'attention publique en Europe. Ils appelaient plus particulièrement celle des trois Puissances garantes de l'indépendance Hellénique, et ils ont été de leur part l'objet de communications suivies dont le résultat, nous l'espérons, sera d'amener entre elles une parfaite communauté de vues. Je me propose de retracer ici un résumé sommaire des idées qui ont été échangées, afin de vous mettre en mesure d'éclairer le Cabinet auprès duquel vous êtes accrédité sur les considérations qui nous ont dirigé. J'aborde cette tâche avec d'autant plus de confiance que le Gouvernement de l'Empereur a la conviction d'avoir tenu la conduite la plus conforme à ses engagements comme à ses principes.

"Nous n'avons point en Grèce d'intérêts distincts de ceux des deux autres Cours. Sans attendre que nous y fussions provoqués par aucunes ouvertures, notre premier soin a été de prescrire au Ministre de l'Empereur à Athènes de concerter

avec les Représentants de l'Angleterre et de la Russie toutes les démarches dont l'urgence serait reconnue.

“Aussi bien, les anciennes rivalités que l'on avait vues quelquefois si vives sur ce terrain avaient cessé depuis plusieurs années; rien n'était venu récemment troubler cet heureux accord, et nous aimions à y puiser l'espoir que les dangers qu'il convenait de prévoir, dans la crise présente, seraient facilement conjurés.

“Ces dangers étaient de deux sortes: ils pouvaient venir des aspirations mêmes de la Grèce cédant à ses idées d'agression contre la Turquie, ou ils pouvaient résulter de l'élection du nouveau Souverain, si elle était de nature à troubler l'équilibre des influences sur lesquelles repose l'ordre actuel des choses en Orient.

“Il importait d'abord de faire appel à la sagesse des Grecs et de les détourner de tout ce qui devait éveiller les susceptibilités de la Porte ou lui causer des inquiétudes. Les Cabinets de Londres et de St. Pétersbourg étaient à cet égard dans des sentiments analogues. Animés nous-mêmes envers la Grèce de la sollicitude qui, depuis quarante ans, a inspiré tant de résolutions généreuses à la France, nous avons instamment recommandé au Gouvernement Provisoire d'user de tout son pouvoir pour calmer le sentiment national. Nous ne lui avons point caché que notre intérêt ne lui était assuré que dans la mesure de ses efforts en faveur du maintien de l'ordre et de la paix; nos conseils n'ont eu d'autre objet que de l'affermir dans le sentiment d'un respect scrupuleux pour les actes qui ont déterminé ses rapports avec la Turquie, et placé l'indépendance Hellénique sous la garantie du droit public Européen.

“Le Gouvernement de l'Empereur a envisagé du même point de vue les questions qui se rattachent au choix du Souverain de la Grèce.

“Nous eussions désiré qu'il fût possible d'exécuter les arrangements de 1832 dans leur teneur complète, en maintenant la Couronne dans la Dynastie à laquelle elle a été alors conférée. L'état des esprits en Grèce ne nous permettait pas, toutefois, d'espérer un retour d'opinion en faveur du Roi Othon, dont nous ne pouvions que déplorer le malheur, et nous n'avions pas tardé à acquérir la conviction que tout effort tenté pour reporter les suffrages des Grecs sur un Prince de sa Dynastie échouerait infailliblement. Cet avis était partagé par le Cabinet Anglais comme par le Gouvernement Russe. Tout en se montrant d'abord disposées à reconnaître la candidature d'un Prince Bavarois, aucune des trois Cours n'avait pensé qu'on pût l'imposer au choix de la Grèce. Elle allait donc demander un Souverain à une autre Maison régnante.

“Les Puissances Protectrices se trouvaient ainsi replacées dans la position où elles étaient avant d'avoir appelé le Roi Othon au Trône Hellénique. Obéissant à une préoccupation dictée par une juste sentiment des intérêts généraux, elles s'étaient interdit dès 1827, par des stipulations expresses, toute recherche d'avantages particuliers, politiques ou commerciaux, et, faisant au choix du Souverain de la Grèce l'application de ce principe, elles avaient signé, le 3 Février, 1830, un Protocole qui excluait toute candidature d'un Prince de leurs Dynasties. Elles n'avaient désigné le Prince Léopold de Saxe-Cobourg, aujourd'hui Roi des Belges, qu'en établissant qu'il avait cessé d'appartenir à la Famille Royale d'Angleterre.

“En un sens, nous le reconnaissons, les circonstances ne sont plus absolument identiques. Les trois Cours étaient chargées, par une délégation formelle de la Grèce, de disposer elles-mêmes de la Couronne. Aujourd'hui, les Grecs font directement usage de leur souveraineté, et la France, l'Angleterre, et la Russie, ont pu prononcer des exclusions qui les obligent encore réciproquement, sans être fondées peut-être à les imposer en ce moment à la Grèce. Mais sans prétendre que la clause restrictive du Protocole du 3 Février, 1830, soit rigoureusement applicable dans ses termes à l'état présent des choses, je ne crois pas me tromper en disant que cette stipulation subsiste tout entière dans son esprit, et que, sous ce rapport, elle est permanente comme les intérêts qui l'ont dictée. Elle a eu pour objet d'empêcher que la Grèce ne se trouvât un jour livrée à l'influence exclusive de l'une des trois Cours, parce que celle qui deviendrait prépondérante sur ce point ne tarderait pas à l'être dans tout l'Orient, dont le sort serait de ce moment entre ses mains.

“C'est en nous inspirant de ces considérations que nous avons dû apprécier l'élection du nouveau Souverain et les diverses candidatures dont il a été question.

“Il nous a été aisé de nous convaincre que les Grecs obéissaient avant tout à la pensée de demander un Roi à une Puissance assez forte leur apporter un appui et secondar leurs aspirations.

“ Le Gouvernement de l'Empereur attachait, pour sa part, le plus grand prix à rester dégagé de toute vue désintéressée ; s'il eût été moins libre de préoccupations personnelles, s'il eût moins tenu compte des intérêts généraux et des Traités qui les protègent, il pouvait offrir aux suffrages de la Grèce un nom qui n'eût pas été sans prestige. Il a préféré donner un nouveau gage de sa sollicitude pour le repos de l'Europe, et, conformant scrupuleusement sa conduite à ses engagements, il s'est refusé à toute idée d'une candidature Française.

“ Nous n'avons eu d'abord à nous exprimer qu'en termes généraux sur celle du Prince Alfred et du Duc de Leuchtenberg. Nous ne pouvions entrer dans un examen plus approfondi, tant que nous avions des raisons de penser que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique n'était pas disposé à accorder le Prince Alfred aux vœux des Grecs. Tout ce que nous avons pu dire dès l'origine, c'est que la pensée d'une Royauté Anglaise à Athènes, se rattachant dans les combinaisons des Grecs à l'abandon présumé des Iles Ioniennes par l'Angleterre, réveillerait chez eux des aspirations qui pourraient faire naître les complications les plus graves et qui surexciteraient inévitablement encore la confiance qu'ils placeraient dans l'appui de l'Angleterre.

“ Par son origine, le Duc de Leuchtenberg avait des titres à la sympathie particulière du Gouvernement de l'Empereur. Il y aurait peut-être eu lieu d'examiner si, n'étant pas réellement admis au rang des Princes de la famille Impériale de Russie, ni apte à succéder à la Couronne, il était atteint par l'exclusion stipulée dans le Protocole de 1830, et s'il ne se trouvait pas dans une position analogue, sous plus d'un rapport, à celle où était, à l'égard de la Maison d'Angleterre, le Prince Léopold de Saxe-Cobourg à l'époque où il fut choisi par les trois Puissances comme Souverain de la Grèce. Nous avons préféré reconnaître sans hésiter que son avènement pourrait aussi causer quelque excitation en Orient, en constatant toutefois que ces inconvénients seraient peut-être moindres avec un Prince qui, appartenant à l'Eglise d'Orient et donnant satisfaction au sentiment religieux des Grecs, serait moins obligé de flatter l'ambition nationale et d'offrir à la Grèce des espérances immédiates d'agrandissement.

“ En définitive, le Gouvernement de l'Empereur, en s'exprimant ainsi, émettait simplement une opinion, sans s'écarter en rien de sa ligne de conduite ; il n'avait point de candidat ; il était prêt à se concerter avec l'Angleterre et la Russie pour venir en aide à la Grèce en éclairant et en dirigeant au besoin officieusement son choix au milieu des difficultés qu'elle rencontrait à concilier ses vœux avec les intérêts de l'Europe et les dispositions des Traités.

“ Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique nous proposait une démarche collective ayant pour but de déclarer à Athènes que les trois Cours Protectrices envisageaient comme étant toujours en vigueur les engagements résultant du Protocole de Londres, et qu'elles ne reconnaîtraient pas l'élection d'un Prince appartenant à l'une des trois familles de France, d'Angleterre, et de Russie. La pensée de proclamer pour chacune d'elles la force obligatoire des exclusions formulées en 1830 n'avait rien que de conforme à nos propres intentions, et nous l'avions énoncé spontanément à Athènes au lendemain de la révolution. Aussi avons-nous répondu au Cabinet de Londres que nous étions tout disposés à faire savoir au Gouvernement Provisoire de la Grèce que nous nous considérions comme liés par nos obligations antérieures. Les principes de notre droit public ne nous autorisaient pas, il est vrai, à établir dans un document officiel que nous refuserions indéfiniment de reconnaître un Souverain qui aurait été élu par le suffrage libre et spontané de la Grèce, en désaccord avec les engagements que les Puissances ont entre elles. Mais, sous cette réserve, nous n'avions aucune répugnance à nous associer aux vues du Gouvernement Anglais et à nous entendre avec lui, ainsi qu'avec le Cabinet Russe, pour écarter toute candidature qui ne serait pas dans les conditions prévues par les Actes de la Conférence de Londres.

“ La même proposition ayant été portée à St. Pétersbourg, la Russie, après avoir décliné une démarche collective, s'était offerte également à avertir les Grecs, si le Gouvernement Anglais faisait, de son côté, la même notification, qu'elle admettait comme étant toujours valables les stipulations de 1830 ; mais cette réponse n'avait pas satisfait aux préoccupations du Cabinet de Londres. Il semblait voir, dans l'hésitation de la Russie à s'expliquer sur la question de savoir si le Duc de Leuchtenberg était compris pour elle dans les exclusions, une circonstance qui pouvait le délier lui-même de ses engagements et lui rendre l'entière indépendance de ces résolutions.

“ La candidature du Prince Alfred, que ne repoussaient plus aussi formelle-

ment les organes demi-officielles du Ministère Anglais, prenait de ce moment un caractère nouveau. Interprétant le silence prolongé du Gouvernement Britannique, les Grecs paraissaient croire à un assentiment implicite, et l'opinion en Europe ne se demandait déjà plus si le Prince Alfred serait élu, mais si l'Angleterre acceptait pour lui la Couronne Hellénique. Un sentiment de prévoyance obligeait le Gouvernement de l'Empereur de se placer en présence de cette éventualité et d'en examiner les conséquences possibles. La cordialité de nos rapports nous permettait de nous en expliquer en toute franchise avec le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique. Nous ne lui avons donc pas caché nos appréciations.

“ Une Royauté Anglaise à Athènes, ’avons-nous dit, ’apporterait des modifications profondes dans la position des Puissances en Orient. Contraire à l’esprit des Actes qui, en fondant le Royaume de Grèce, ont voulu se soustraire à toute action prépondérante de l’une des trois Cours, un fait aussi considérable menacerait le sage équilibre que d’autres Traités plus récents ont eu pour objet de fortifier encore. Dût-il n’en résulter aucun changement immédiat dans la politique Anglaise à l’égard de l’Empire Ottoman, le Cabinet de Londres aurait désormais entre les mains les moyens de faire sentir à son gré son influence sur tous les points de la Turquie, et comme, en unissant le sort d’un Prince de la Famille Royale d’Angleterre aux destinées de la Grèce, sa pensée ne pourrait être de comprimer le sentiment national des Hellènes, il se trouverait tôt ou tard entraîné par la force des choses à seconder des tendances en désaccord avec la conservation de l’Empire Ottoman. La question d’Orient pourrait donc se rouvrir dans des conditions toutes nouvelles. Les intérêts des autres Puissances auraient à en souffrir dès à présent, et seraient gravement compromis dans l’avenir. Le Gouvernement de l’Empereur, en ce qui le concerne, ne pourrait moins faire que de prendre acte d’un semblable événement, en se réservant d’aviser, s’il y avait lieu, au rétablissement de l’équilibre altéré.”

“ Tel est, en substance, le langage que nous avons tenu dans la prévision qu’autorisaient les manifestations de l’opinion publique en Grèce et la réserve que le Cabinet Anglais gardait sur ses intentions depuis les dernières communications du Gouvernement Russe. Le Cabinet de Londres nous a répondu en renouvelant l’assurance de son désir de rester dans les prescriptions des Traités, et en ajoutant qu’il refuserait d’accepter la candidature du Prince Alfred, si la Cour de Russie prenait, de son côté, le même engagement à l’égard du Duc de Leuchtenberg. Désirant contribuer, autant qu’il dépendait de nous, à prévenir les embarras et les dangers que nous avions signalés, nous n’avons pas hésité à conseiller au Gouvernement Russe de donner les explications qui lui étaient demandées. Il n’avait aucune objection à se déclarer lié par le Protocole du 5 Février; en se prononçant en termes plus formels sur la position du Duc de Leuchtenberg, il pouvait lever les difficultés qui subsistaient encore; et l’Ambassadeur de l’Empereur à St. Pétersbourg a été chargé de s’exprimer très-nettement dans le sens d’une exclusion explicite.

“ Bien que des informations venues de Grèce parussent un moment moins défavorables à la candidature du Duc de Leuchtenberg, le Ministre de l’Empereur à Athènes a été invité, par ordre exprès de Sa Majesté, à s’abstenir d’y donner aucun encouragement. La Cour de Russie, qui déjà venait de prescrire à son Représentant en Grèce de faire la déclaration suggérée par le Gouvernement Anglais au sujet des engagements de 1830, a bien voulu, en nous informant de cette démarche, ajouter que, sans discuter l’état civil du Duc de Leuchtenberg, elle renonçait pour lui à toute candidature. Rien ne saurait s’opposer aujourd’hui à l’entente des trois Cours. Nous espérons donc que les Cabinets ne tarderont pas à être en mesure de recommander un candidat aux suffrages de la Grèce, et de mettre fin à une agitation qui, après avoir été stérile, pourrait devenir dangereuse.

“ Agréez, &c.

(Signé) “DROUYN DE LHUYS.”

(Translation.)

THE following, according to the “Indépendance Belge,” is the text of M. Drouyn de Lhuys’ circular on the affairs of Greece :—

“ Paris, December 4, 1862.

“ The affairs of Greece have strongly occupied the attention of Europe for some time past. They have more particularly attracted the attention of the three Powers

who guaranteed Hellenic independence, and they have led to continuous communications between those Powers, the result of which, we trust, will be a complete unanimity of opinion. I propose to give you a short analysis of the views that have been exchanged, in order to enable you to inform the Cabinet to which you are accredited of the considerations by which we have been influenced. I undertake this task with all the more confidence, because the Emperor's Government is convinced that it has followed the course most in accordance with its engagements and its principles.

"We have no interests in Greece differing from those of the other two Courts. Without waiting to be urged by any overtures, our first care was to request the Emperor's Minister at Athens to concert with the Representatives of England and Russia such measures as might be deemed expedient.

"The keen rivalries which had been witnessed in Greece in former years had for some time ceased to exist. Nothing had recently occurred to disturb this good understanding, and we were justified in hoping that the dangers it was necessary to provide against in the present crisis would be easily averted.

"These dangers were of two kinds; they might arise out of the aspirations of Greece yielding to its ideas of aggression against Turkey, or they might result from the election of a new Sovereign, if it was of a nature to disturb the equilibrium of the influences upon which the present state of things in the East is based.

"It was necessary, in the first place, to appeal to the prudence of the Greeks, and to dissuade them from everything likely to arouse the susceptibilities of the Porte, or cause it uneasiness. The Cabinets of London and St. Petersburg were agreed upon this point. Animated ourselves by that solicitude for Greece which during forty years has inspired France with so many generous resolutions, we at once recommended the Provisional Government to employ all its influence in calming the national sentiment. We did not conceal from the Government that our interest would only be secured in proportion to efforts in favour of the maintenance of order and of peace. Our counsels have had no other object than that of strengthening it in the sentiment of scrupulous respect for the acts which have determined its relations with Turkey, and placed Hellenic independence under the guarantee of the public law of Europe.

"The Government of the Emperor has regarded from the same point of view the questions connected with the choice of a Sovereign for Greece.

"We should have wished, if possible, to carry out the arrangements of 1832 in all their integrity by maintaining the Crown in the family of the Dynasty to which it was then confined. Public opinion in Greece did not, however, permit us to hope for a return of opinion in favour of King Otho, whose misfortunes we could only deplore, and we were soon led to the conviction that any attempt to lead the suffrages of Greece towards a Prince of his Dynasty would inevitably be a failure. This opinion was shared by the English Cabinet and by the Russian Government. While showing themselves disposed at first to recognize the candidature of a Bavarian Prince, none of the three Powers thought that it should be forced upon Greece. She was then about to seek a Sovereign in another Reigning Family.

"The Protecting Powers thus again found themselves in the position they occupied before inviting King Otho to the Hellenic Throne. Obeying a sentiment dictated by a just appreciation of general interests, they had bound themselves in 1827 by express stipulations not to seek any private, political, or commercial advantage; and, applying this principle in their selection of the Sovereign for Greece, they signed, on the 3rd of February, 1830, a Protocol which excluded all candidature on the part of a Prince of their Dynasties. They had not named Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg, now King of the Belgians, until they had established the fact that he no longer belonged to the Royal Family of England.

"In one sense we admit that circumstances are no longer absolutely identical. The three Powers were empowered, by a formal delegation of Greece, themselves to dispose of the Crown. Now the Greeks make direct use of their sovereign power, and France, England, and Russia may have decided upon exclusions by which they are reciprocally bound, without being justified, perhaps, in compelling the Greeks at this moment to adopt their views. But, without pretending that the restrictive clause of the Protocol of the 3rd of February, 1830, is, in its terms, rigorously applicable to the present state of things, I think I am not mistaken in saying that the spirit of this stipulation still exists entire, and that, in this respect, it is

permanent, like the interests which dictated it. Its object was to prevent Greece from finding herself some day under the exclusive influence of one of the three Courts, because the Court which became dominant in this respect would soon be so also throughout the East, the destiny of which would thenceforth be in its hands.

"These considerations have guided us in judging of the election of a new Sovereign and in forming our opinion of the various candidates mentioned.

"We have had no difficulty in seeing that the Greeks were intent, above all, in obtaining a King from some Power sufficiently strong to afford them support and to second their aspirations.

"The Government of the Emperor, for its part, felt it to be of the utmost consequence to be free from all interested views. If it had been less free from personal considerations, if it had thought less of general interests and of the Treaties which protect them, it might have offered to the suffrages of Greece a name not without prestige. It has preferred to give fresh evidence of its solicitude for the tranquillity of Europe, and, scrupulously basing its conduct upon engagements, it has rejected all ideas of a French candidature.

"We had at first merely to express ourselves in general terms upon the candidatures of Prince Alfred and the Duke de Leuchtenberg. We could not enter into a more complete examination while we had reasons for thinking that the British Government was not disposed to give Prince Alfred to the Greeks. All that we could say at first was, that the idea of an English Monarch at Athens, associated as it was in the plans of the Greeks with the assumed abandonment of the Ionian Isles by England, would arouse aspirations among them which might give rise to the gravest complications, and inevitably still further increase the confidence they placed in the support of England.

"By his origin the Duke de Leuchtenberg had claims upon the special sympathy of the Emperor's Government. It might, perhaps, have been well to examine whether, not being really admitted to the rank of the Princes of the Imperial family of Russia who could succeed to the Crown, he was affected by the exclusion stipulated in the Protocol of 1830; and whether he was not, in more than one respect, in a similar position to that in which Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg was placed with regard to the English Royal family, at the period when he was chosen by the three Powers as Sovereign of Greece. We preferred to allow without hesitation that his accession might also cause some excitement in the East, deeming, nevertheless, that this inconvenience would, perhaps, be less with a Prince who, belonging to the Eastern Church, and satisfying the religious sentiments of the Greeks, would not be similarly necessitated to flatter the national ambition, and to offer to Greece hopes of immediate aggrandizement.

"In short, the Government of the Emperor, in expressing itself thus, simply uttered an opinion without deviating in anything from its line of conduct; it had no candidate; it was ready to act with England and Russia in assisting Greece in enlightening and directing, if necessary, her choice amid the difficulties which she would have to encounter in conciliating her wishes with the interests of Europe and the disposition of Treaties.

"The Government of Her Britannic Majesty proposed to us a joint action, with the view of declaring at Athens that the three Protecting Courts regarded the engagements of the London Protocol as being still in force, and that they could not recognize the election of a Prince belonging to one of the three families of France, England, and Russia. The idea of proclaiming in each case the obligations agreed upon in 1830 was only in conformity with our own intentions; and we expressed them spontaneously at Athens on the morrow of the revolution. Thus we replied to the London Cabinet that we were quite ready to make known to the Provisional Government of Greece that we considered ourselves bound by our former obligations. The principles of our public law did not, it is true, authorize us to establish, in an official document, that we should indefinitely refuse to recognize any Sovereign who had been elected by the free and spontaneous suffrage of Greece, in opposition to the mutual engagements of the Powers; but, with this reserve, we had no objection to join in the views of the English Government, and to agree with it and with the Russian Cabinet to exclude every candidature not within the conditions prescribed by the stipulations of the London Conference.

"The same proposition having been made at St. Petersburg, Russia, after having declined collective action, offered, nevertheless, to inform the Greeks, if the English Government on its part did the same, that it considered the stipulations of

1830 to be still in force; but this reply did not satisfy the desires ("préoccupations") of the London Cabinet. It appeared to see, in the hesitation of Russia in explaining whether the Duke de Leuchtenberg was, in her sight, comprehended in the stipulations of exclusion, a circumstance which might release her from her own engagements, and give her entire freedom of opinion.

"The candidature of Prince Alfred, which the semi-official organs of the English Ministry no longer rejected, assumed from that moment a new character. Interpreting the prolonged silence of the British Government, the Greeks appeared to consider it an implicit assent, and European opinion no longer asked if Prince Alfred would be elected, but if England would accept for him the Hellenic Crown. A prudential sentiment compelled the Emperor's Government to look this eventuality steadily in the face, and to examine its possible consequences. The cordiality of our relations enabled us to explain ourselves quite freely to the British Government. We did not, therefore, conceal from it our views.

"An English monarchy at Athens,' we said, 'would produce profound modifications in the position of the Powers in the East. Contrary to the spirit of stipulations which, when the kingdom of Greece was founded, were intended to keep her from all preponderating action on the part of one of the three Courts, a circumstance of this importance would threaten the judicious equilibrium which it has been the object of other and more recent Treaties to strengthen. Should any immediate change in English policy towards the Ottoman Empire be the result, the London Cabinet would have at its command the means of making its influence felt upon all parts of Turkey; and as, in uniting the destiny of a Prince of the English Royal family with that of Greece, it could not mean to repress the national sentiment of the Hellenes, it would find itself sooner or later compelled by the force of circumstances to support tendencies hostile to the maintenance of the Ottoman empire. The Eastern question might then be reopened under entirely new conditions. The interests of the other Powers would have to suffer now, and would be gravely compromised hereafter. The Government of the Emperor, so far as it was concerned, could not do less than take notice of such an event if it occurred, while claiming the right of considering the re-establishment of the disturbed equilibrium.'

"Such is, in substance, the language that we have held in the provision justified by the manifestations of public opinion in Greece and the reserve the English Cabinet maintained after the last communication from the Russian Government. The Cabinet of London replied to us by renewing the assurance of its desire to remain within the stipulations of the Treaties, and by adding that it would refuse to accept the candidature of Prince Alfred if the Court of Russia on its part made the same engagement with respect to the Duke of Leuchtenberg. Wishing to obviate as much as lay in our power the embarrassments and the dangers we had pointed out, we did not hesitate to advise the Russian Government to give the explanations which were requested of it. It had no objection to declare itself bound by the Protocol of the 5th of February. In pronouncing itself in more formal terms upon the position of the Duke de Leuchtenberg, it might remove the difficulties which still remained, and the Ambassador of the Emperor at St. Petersburg was charged to express himself very distinctly in the sense of an explicit exclusion.

"Although news from Greece appeared, at one time, less unfavourable to the candidature of the Duke de Leuchtenberg, the Minister at Athens was expressly requested to abstain from giving it any encouragement. The Court of Russia, which had already ordered its Representative in Greece to make the declaration suggested by the English Government respecting the engagements of 1830, added, in informing us of this measure, that, without discussing the rank of the Duke of Leuchtenberg, it entirely renounced his candidature. There is nothing now to disturb the understanding of the three Courts. We hope, therefore, that the Cabinets will soon be able to recommend a candidate to the suffrages of Greece, and to end an agitation which, after having been fruitless, might become dangerous.

"Receive, &c.

(Signed)

"DROUYN DE LHUYS."

Inclosure 2 in No. 134.

Extract from the "Journal de St. Pétersbourg" of December $\frac{12}{24}$, 1862.

Dépêche Circulaire aux Missions Impériales de Russie à l'Etranger.

St. Pétersbourg, le 2 Décembre, 1862.

LE bruit qui s'est fait en Europe autour de la question Grecque et les conjectures erronées qui se sont accréditées à ce sujet m'engagent à vous faire connaître l'attitude que, pour sa part, le Cabinet Impérial a adoptée dès l'origine et dans le cours de cette crise.

Lorsqu'elle éclata d'une manière si subite, les premières nouvelles que la télégraphie en porta à l'Europe étaient trop vagues pour qu'il fût possible d'apprécier exactement la situation.

Les seules directions que, dès le 14 Octobre, j'adressai par télégraphe à notre Ministre à Athènes, d'ordre de Sa Majesté l'Empereur, furent de ne point séparer son action de celle de ses collègues, de rester dans le pays comme simple observateur et sans entrer en relations officielles avec le Gouvernement Provisoire. Je lui annonçai qu'une frégate Russe était mise à sa disposition, non comme démonstration politique, mais pour que notre Représentant fût, sous ce rapport, sur le même pied que ses collègues de France et de l'Angleterre.

Le 18 Octobre, nous étions informés, par notre Ambassadeur à Londres, que le Cabinet Anglais avait pris en Grèce une position analogue à celle que nous venions de prescrire au Comte Bloudoff. Comme nous il désirait un concert entre les trois grandes Puissances garantes; comme nous il prescrivait à son Représentant de s'abstenir de toute ingérence dans les événements, et mettait à sa disposition des forces navales destinées à protéger ses nationaux.

Le Gouvernement Français nous témoigna des intentions analogues, et ainsi se trouva posé spontanément un principe essentiel à nos yeux, celui du maintien de l'entente entre les trois Cours.

Pour mieux préciser cette entente, l'Empereur m'ordonna d'informer les Cabinets de Londres et de Paris que Sa Majesté restait fidèle à l'engagement commun aux trois Cours protectrices, et qui exclut du Trône de Grèce les membres de leurs familles. Cette déclaration fut transmise à notre Ambassadeur à Londres, par la voie du télégraphe, le 19 Octobre.

Une communication semblable fut adressée à notre Chargé d'Affaires à Paris.

Dans mes dépêches aux Représentants de Sa Majesté, je m'attachai à confirmer et à développer les principes contenus dans ces communications télégraphiques. Le 18 Octobre, j'écrivais à notre Ambassadeur à Londres que le Cabinet Impérial se félicitait de s'être rencontré avec le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique dans l'attitude qu'il avait prise dès le premier moment; que nous attendrions tranquillement le développement des événements, les combinâmes des autres Cours, et les dispositions des esprits en Grèce; que Sa Majesté l'Empereur était décidé à observer fidèlement les obligations des Traités, et nommément celle qui interdit le Trône de Grèce aux familles régnantes des trois Cours; qu'aucune démarche ni insinuation, même la plus éloignée, n'avait eu et n'aurait lieu de notre part quant au choix du futur Souverain de la Grèce; que nous étions persuadés que les deux autres Cours apporteraient la même fidélité à tenir leurs engagements; qu'à notre avis, ces engagements subsistaient tant que les trois Puissances persistaient à les maintenir, et qu'aucune n'avait le droit de s'en écarter sans un accord unanime; qu'enfin nous étions animés du même désir que nous entretenions sur toutes les grandes affaires Européennes, celui d'une entente avec les autres Puissances, sans aucune arrière-pensée ni vue personnelle; et que si les autres Cours apportaient les mêmes dispositions, l'entente s'établirait sans effort, à l'avantage général.

C'est dans le même esprit qu'ont été conçues les instructions dont notre Ministre à Athènes a été muni. D'après ses rapports télégraphiques et ses dépêches, nous avons pu nous convaincre qu'il se conformait strictement à l'attitude qui lui était prescrite. Avant même d'avoir reçu nos premières instructions, il avait répondu à une notification du Gouvernement Provisoire Grec qu'il ne pouvait entretenir avec lui aucune relation officielle. Les directions que je lui transmis successivement le maintinrent dans cette voie. Il lui fut prescrit de se borner au rôle d'un observateur impartial; le Cabinet Impérial n'apportant dans cette question aucune vue personnelle, le calme et la réserve bienveillante de son

attitude seraient le meilleur moyen de dérouter les calculs de ceux qui prétent à la Russie des convoitises intéressées.

Je l'invitai néanmoins à profiter des rapports officieux qu'il pourrait avoir avec les personnages influents dans le pays pour leur signaler le danger de tout projet d'agression ou d'une alliance avec la révolution, et leur recommander l'ordre, la modération, et le maintien du principe monarchique, qui pouvait seul préserver la Grèce de l'anarchie.

Cependant, malgré l'échange satisfaisant d'idées qui avait eu lieu entre les Cabinets, leurs intentions avaient été préjugées, leurs dispositions commentées, leurs décisions devancées; des noms avaient été prononcées, et les partis, s'emparant de ces éléments comme d'un drapeau, avaient excité en Grèce une vive agitation.

Dans ces circonstances, le Cabinet Impérial jugea qu'il pouvait être utile de faire faire un pas de plus à l'entente des Cabinets sur la marche à suivre en commun.

A cet effet, il nous parut opportun de rattacher les événements aux prévisions de la Conférence de Londres au point même où les faits accomplis en avaient rompu l'enchaînement.

Un Traité avait été conclu entre les trois Puissances Protectrices de la Grèce; il avait appelé au Trône le Roi Othon et consacré différentes éventualités relatives à la Dynastie de Bavière.

Il nous sembla que le premier pas à faire était une démarche collective près la Cour de Munich pour lui demander si, dans les circonstances actuelles, elle maintenait les droits dérivant des prévisions de la Conférence de Londres, et si elle était en mesure de présenter un candidat remplissant les conditions posées par la Constitution Hellénique et confirmées par le Traité de Londres.

Sans avoir en vue de faire découler de cette ouverture aucune coercition ni même aucune injonction péremptoire envers la Grèce, nous avons pensé qu'une pareille démarche pouvait néanmoins servir de point de départ utile à une action collective officieuse des trois Cours, basée sur les engagements résultant des transactions diplomatiques antérieures et destinée à concilier autant que possible les intérêts existants avec les droits reconnus.

Sur ces entrefaites, le 6 Novembre, M. l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre me communiqua une proposition de sa Cour ayant pour objet: d'abord de déclarer, par une démarche collective des trois Cours auprès du Gouvernement Provisoire Grec, qu'aucun des Princes alliés aux trois familles régnantes n'était apte à l'élection au Trône de Grèce; ensuite, de nous demander si nous considérions Monseigneur le Duc de Leuchtenberg comme compris dans cette exclusion.

Quant au premier point, nous avons déjà fait connaître aux Cabinets de Londres et de Paris la détermination de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de rester fidèle à l'engagement contracté en commun entre les trois Cours, et qui exclut du Trône de Grèce les membres de leurs familles.

Nous n'avons dès lors rien à ajouter à une déclaration aussi catégorique.

L'opportunité d'une démarche collective à faire dans le même but auprès du Gouvernement Provisoire à Athènes ne nous parut pas suffisamment démontrée.

La Grèce était en proie à une vive agitation, résultat inévitable de la crise qu'elle traversait. Dans ces circonstances, il pouvait être dangereux d'ajouter un nouvel élément de trouble à l'effervescence des passions déjà surexcitées, en plaçant la nation Hellénique entre des déclarations contradictoires, dont les unes tendaient à lui reconnaître, comme nation indépendante, une pleine liberté quant au choix de son Souverain, tandis que les autres auraient apporté à l'exercice de ce droit des restrictions très-étendues. Il pouvait résulter de là un découragement qui pousserait le peuple Grec aux partis extrêmes et le jetterait dans l'anarchie. Or, de tous les périls qui le menaçaient, celui-là n'était pas le moindre à notre avis.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire avait fait appel aux élections pour une Assemblée Nationale qui devait se réunir au mois de Décembre et prononcer sur les destinées du pays. Cette marche régulière avait rencontré l'approbation unanime des Cabinets. Il importait de ne point la troubler prématurément. Lorsque cette Assemblée serait réunie, le moment viendrait naturellement, selon nous, où les trois Grandes Puissances, déjà d'accord en principe et ayant eu le temps de compléter leur entente sur les détails, se trouveraient en mesure de guider les Grecs par leurs conseils bienveillants, dans cette crise si importante pour leur avenir.

Je répondis en conséquence à M. l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre que, dans un moment où les passions étaient exaltées, la démarche qu'il nous proposait auprès du Gouvernement Provisoire nous paraissant de nature à troubler les esprits et à les jeter, par le découragement, dans l'anarchie, le Cabinet Impérial ne croyait pas pouvoir y adhérer sous la forme solennelle d'une action collective.

Quant à sa seconde demande concernant Monseigneur le Duc de Leuchtenberg, quoique la position civile de ce Prince pût offrir matière à quelques doutes juridiques, appeler la discussion sur ce sujet aurait été poser en quelque sorte sa candidature. Or Sa Majesté l'Empereur avait résolu de n'en poser aucune.

C'est dans ce sens que je répondis à Lord Napier, en lui renouvelant d'ailleurs positivement l'assurance que nous n'avions ni convoitises ni arrière-pensées ; que notre Ministre à Athènes n'avait pas prononcé un seul mot ni fait la plus légère allusion quant au choix du futur Souverain de la Grèce, et que les instructions du Cabinet Impérial le maintenaient scrupuleusement dans cette réserve.

Je fis en même temps part à M. l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre de la démarche collective que nous jugions utile de proposer aux deux autres Puissances garantes près la Cour de Munich, et j'adressai la même communication à M. l'Ambassadeur de France.

Toutefois cette proposition ne rencontra point l'assentiment des Cabinets de Paris et de Londres.

Cependant les réponses que j'avais faites aux ouvertures qui venaient de m'être transmises par M. l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre avaient produit à Londres une impression à laquelle nous étions loin de nous attendre.

Lors même que le Gouvernement Anglais n'aurait point partagé notre opinion sur les ménagements réclamés par l'état des esprits en Grèce, nous ne pensions nullement qu'après les déclarations si catégoriques que nous avions faites au nom de Sa Majesté l'Empereur, quant au maintien du principe d'exclusion des membres des familles régnantes des trois Cours, les doutes que nous entretenions sur l'opportunité d'une déclaration collective dans ce sens à Athènes pouvaient être interprétés comme une intention de nous dégager d'obligations contractées en commun, et donner aux autres Puissances le droit de s'en prévaloir pour se considérer comme déliées de ces mêmes obligations.

Tel est néanmoins le sens qui paraît y avoir été rattaché. La marche rapide des choses en Grèce semblait avoir inspiré la conviction que si l'Angleterre enlevait au peuple Hellénique tout espoir quant à la candidature d'un Prince Anglais, l'opinion publique se porterait inévitablement sur un Prince Russe, et dès lors le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique s'est cru autorisé à ne point décourager les sympathies qui se manifestaient en Grèce pour la candidature de Monseigneur le Prince Alfred.

Le mouvement qui se produisait dans ce sens avait acquis un caractère tel que l'entraînement populaire, devant l'époque de la réunion de l'Assemblée Nationale, semblait au moment de trancher par un plébiscite une question dont la solution avait été primitivement remise aux délégués du pays.

Dans cette situation, qui s'éloignait visiblement en fait de l'entente convenue en principe entre les trois Cours, le Cabinet Impérial, désirant écarter pour sa part toute cause de malentendu, s'empessa de confirmer, par un télégramme adressé le 13 Novembre au Ministre de Russie à Athènes, les précédentes communications qui l'informaient du maintien en pleine vigueur du principe interdisant le Trône de Grèce aux membres des familles régnantes des trois Cours Protectrices, en ajoutant que le Cabinet Anglais ayant cru utile de rappeler à Athènes l'existence de cet engagement, M. le Comte Bloudoff était invité à se prononcer dans ce sens, après s'être concerté avec son collègue de France, si M. le Ministre d'Angleterre recevait l'ordre de s'acquitter de cette démarche.

Nous avons été informés qu'en effet notre Représentant à Athènes et M. le Ministre de France ont fait au Gouvernement Provisoire une déclaration conçue dans cet esprit.

M. le Ministre d'Angleterre paraît avoir reçu l'ordre de s'y joindre plus tard, c'est-à-dire, après la signature des notes échangées entre les Cabinets de Russie et d'Angleterre, le 22 Novembre.

Pour achever d'écarter toute espèce de doute quant à notre attitude, non-seulement le Cabinet Impérial avait porté à la connaissance du Cabinet de Londres les directions dont M. le Comte Bloudoff venait d'être muni, mais encore les Représentants de Sa Majesté l'Empereur à Paris et à Londres reçurent, le 18 Novembre, par la voie du télégraphe, l'ordre de déclarer que nous n'avions jamais

posé la candidature de Monseigneur le Duc de Leuchtenberg ; que, pour nous, cette candidature n'existait pas politiquement, quelle que fût l'interprétation que le Traité pût recevoir juridiquement, et qu'en conséquence rien ne s'opposait à ce que les trois Cours délibérassent sur le choix de candidats possibles au Trône de Grèce.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique s'étant pleinement satisfait de cette déclaration, notre Ambassadeur proposa de la formuler dans un engagement réciproque. Des notes à cet effet ont été signées et échangées le 22 Novembre entre l'Ambassadeur de Russie à Londres et le Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique. Elles rappellent l'engagement qui exclut du Trône Hellénique les membres des trois familles régnantes, et constatent qu'il est mutuellement convenu de déclarer nulle et non avenue l'élection de Monseigneur le Duc de Leuchtenberg ou celle de Son Altesse Royale le Prince Alfred, si l'un ou l'autre était appelé au Trône de Grèce par le vœu de la nation.

Le Cabinet Français a été invité par les deux Cours à adhérer à cet engagement.

Telle est, Monsieur, la marche que le Cabinet Impérial a suivie depuis l'origine de cette crise jusqu'à son développement actuel. Elle s'est inspirée, comme vous pourrez vous en convaincre, du principe général qui préside à la politique de notre auguste Maître, c'est-à-dire, qu'une entente franche et loyale des grandes Puissances, en dehors de toute rivalité politique et de tout calcul intéressé, est le seul moyen d'écarter les complications menaçantes pour le repos de l'Orient et la paix de l'Europe qui, depuis la guerre de 1856, sont devenues plus nombreuses et plus pressantes.

Si difficile que soit cette tâche, nous persistons à ne pas la croire au-dessus des efforts des Cabinets, si tous y apportent les mêmes vues conciliantes et désintéressées.

* Recevez, &c.
(Signé) GORTCHAKOFF.

(Translation.)

Circular Despatch to the Russian Imperial Missions to Foreign Courts.

St. Petersburg, December 2, 1862.

THE sensation which has been created in Europe by the Greek question, and the erroneous conjectures which have obtained credence in this matter, make it incumbent upon me to bring to your knowledge the attitude which, for their part, the Imperial Cabinet have adopted from the origin and during the course of this crisis.

At the time when it broke out in so sudden a manner, the first intelligence which the telegraphs bore over Europe respecting it was too vague for it to be possible exactly to appreciate the situation.

The only directions which, on the 14th of October, I addressed by telegraph to our Minister at Athens by order of His Majesty the Emperor, were not to separate himself in action from his colleagues, to remain in the country as an observer only, and without entering into official relations with the Provisional Government. I announced to him that a Russian frigate had been placed at his disposal, not by way of a political demonstration, but that our Representative might be, in that respect, on the same footing as his colleagues of France and of England.

On the 18th of October we were informed, by our Ambassador in London, that the English Cabinet had taken up a position in Greece similar to the one we had prescribed to Count Bloudoff. Like us they desired an agreement between the three Great Protecting Powers: like us they had instructed their Representative to abstain from all interference in what took place, and placed at his disposal naval forces for the purpose of protecting his countrymen.

The French Government gave evidence of similar intentions, and thus a principle which, in our opinion, is essential, was laid down spontaneously, viz., that of maintaining harmony among the three Courts.

The better to define this understanding the Emperor commanded me to inform the Cabinets of London and Paris that His Majesty remained faithful to the engagement common to the three Protecting Powers, and which excluded from the throne of Greece members of their families. This declaration was transmitted to our Ambassador in London, by telegraph, on the 19th of October.

A similar communication was addressed to our Chargé d'Affaires at Paris.

In my despatches to the Representatives of His Majesty I applied myself to confirming and developing the principles contained in these telegraphic communications. On the 18th of October I wrote to our Ambassador in London that the Imperial Cabinet congratulated itself on having met the Government of Her Britannic Majesty in the attitude which it had taken from the first; that we would quietly await the development of events, the concurrence of the other Courts, and the expression of opinion in Greece; that His Majesty the Emperor was determined to observe faithfully the obligations of Treaties, and especially of that one which barred the Throne of Greece to the reigning families of the three Powers; that no step nor insinuation, even the most distant, had or would take place on our part as to the choice of the future Sovereign of Greece; that we were persuaded that the two other Powers would exercise the same fidelity in holding to their engagements; that, in our opinion, those engagements would be in force so long as the three Powers persisted in maintaining them, and that no one of them had the right to depart from them without the consent of all; that, finally, we were swayed by the same wish which we maintained in all great European questions, viz., that of agreement with the other Powers, without any mental reservation or personal views, and that if the other Courts showed the same disposition, this agreement would be established without difficulty, to the advantage of all.

It was in the same sense that the instructions furnished to our Minister at Athens were framed. From his telegraphic reports and despatches we have been convinced that he has conformed strictly to the line of conduct prescribed to him. Even before receiving our first instructions he had answered to a notification from the Greek Provisional Government that he could not hold any official relations with them. The instructions which I successively transmitted to him kept him in this course. He was instructed to maintain the attitude of an impartial looker-on; the Imperial Cabinet not having any personal views in this question, calmness and a friendly reserve in their attitude would be the best means of overthrowing the calculations of those who attribute interested motives and cupidity to Russia.

Nevertheless, I invited him to avail himself of the officious relations which he might have with influential persons in the country to point out to them the danger of any project of aggression, or of any alliance with the revolution, and to recommend to them order, moderation, and the maintenance of Monarchical principles, which alone could save Greece from anarchy.

Still, notwithstanding the satisfactory exchange of ideas which had taken place between the Cabinets, their intentions had been prejudged, the steps they took commented on, and their decisions forestalled; names were pronounced, and parties, making use of these elements as of a standard, had excited in Greece a keen agitation.

Under these circumstances the Imperial Cabinet judged that it might be useful to negotiate for a further advance towards the understanding of the Cabinets as to the common course to be adopted.

With this view it seems to us a favourable opportunity for connecting events with the provisions of the Conference of London at the very point where actual occurrences had broken the chain of connection.

A Treaty had been concluded between the three Powers protectors of Greece. King Otho was called to the Throne by its terms, and it sanctioned a course to be taken in eventualities regarding the Bavarian Dynasty.

It seemed to us that the first step to be taken was a collective application to the Court of Munich, to ask whether, under the present circumstances, it continued to assert the rights drawn from the provisions of the Conference of London, and if it was in its power to present a candidate who should fulfil the conditions required by the Hellenic Constitution and confirmed by the Treaty of London.

Without contemplating as a result of this overture any compulsion nor even any peremptory injunction upon Greece, we considered that such an overture might, notwithstanding, form an useful starting-point for the officious collective action of the three Powers, based upon the engagements resulting from foregone diplomatic transactions, and destined as far as possible to reconcile existing interests with recognized rights.

In the meanwhile, on the 6th November, the English Ambassador communicated to me a proposal from his Court, having for its objects: in the first place, to declare through a collective address by the three Courts to the Greek Provisional Government, that no Prince allied to the three reigning families was eligible to the

Throne of Greece; next, to inquire whether we should consider Monseigneur the Duke of Leuchtenberg to be comprised in this exclusion.

As respects the first point, we had already acquainted the Cabinets of London and Paris with the determination of His Majesty the Emperor to remain faithful to the engagements contracted between the three Courts in common, and which excludes the members of their families from the Throne of Greece.

Thenceforth we had nothing to add to so categorical a declaration.

The necessity of making collective advances with the same object to the Provisional Government at Athens seemed to us not to be sufficiently shown.

Greece was a prey to vehement agitation, the unavoidable result of the crisis she was passing through. In these circumstances it might be dangerous to add a new element of trouble to the effervescence of passions already too much stirred up, by placing the Hellenic nation between contradictory declarations, some of which tended to allow it, as an independent nation, full liberty as to the choice of its Sovereign, whilst others would have laid upon the exercise of this right very extensive restrictions. Thence might have resulted discouragement which would drive the Greek people to extreme courses and cast them into anarchy. Now of all the perils which menaced them, that one was, in our opinion, not the least.

The Provisional Government had appealed to the elections to call out a National Assembly, which should meet in the month of December, and pronounce upon the future of the country. This regular proceeding had obtained the unanimous approbation of the Cabinets. It was of importance not to interfere with it prematurely. When that Assembly should have met, the natural moment, in our view, would have arrived when the three great Powers, already agreed in principle, and having had time to complete their unison in details, would be in a position to guide the Greeks by friendly counsels in this crisis having so important a bearing on their future.

In consequence, I replied to the English Ambassador, that at a moment when passions were high, the course which he proposed to us towards the Provisional Government appeared to us of a nature to disturb minds, and to throw them, through discouragement, into anarchy, and the Imperial Cabinet did not think themselves at liberty to adopt it under the solemn form of collective action.

As regarded his second request relating to Monseigneur the Duke of Leuchtenberg, although the civil status of that Prince might afford ground for certain juridical doubts, to invite discussion on this subject would have been in some sort to proclaim his candidateship. Now His Majesty the Emperor had resolved to bring forward no candidate.

It was in this sense that I replied to Lord Napier, at the same time renewing to him positively the assurance that we were free both cupidity and from mental reservation; that our Minister at Athens had not uttered a single word, nor made the slightest suggestion, in connection with the choice of the future Sovereign of Greece, and that the instructions of the Imperial Cabinet bound him scrupulously to this reserve.

At the same time I informed the English Ambassador of the collective negotiations at the Court of Munich, which we judged it useful to propose to the two other guaranteeing Powers, and I addressed a similar communication to the French Ambassador.

This proposal, however, did not meet with the consent of the Cabinets of Paris and of London.

Still, the answers which I had given to the overtures newly transmitted to me by the English Ambassador had produced in London an impression which we were far from expecting.

Even though the English Government should not share our opinion of the treatment demanded by the state of feeling in Greece, we in no wise supposed that after the declarations which we had made so categorically, in the name of His Majesty the Emperor, as to the maintenance of the principle of exclusion of the members of the Reigning Families of the three Courts, the doubts which we entertained as to the opportunity having arrived for a collective declaration in this sense at Athens could be interpreted to show an intention to disengage ourselves from obligations contracted in common, and to give to the other Powers a right to avail themselves of this, so as to consider themselves freed from the same obligations.

This, nevertheless, is the sense which appears to have been put upon it. The

rapid march of events in Greece seemed to have inspired the conviction that if England took from the Hellenic people all hope as to the candidateship of an English Prince, the public sentiment would inevitably bear towards a Russian Prince; and thus, the Government of Her Britannic Majesty believed themselves authorized in not discouraging the sympathies which were manifested in Greece towards the candidateship of Monseigneur the Prince Alfred.

The movement which was being produced in this direction had acquired a character such that the popular impulse, anticipating the period of meeting of the National Assembly, appeared on the point of determining by a popular vote a question whose solution had been originally referred to the delegates of the country.

In this situation, which was in fact visibly at variance with the understanding arrived at in principle between the three Courts, the Imperial Cabinet, desirous of removing, for their part, every cause of misunderstanding, hastened by a telegram addressed on the 13th November to the Russian Minister at Athens, to corroborate previous communications which informed him of the maintenance, in full vigour, of the principle of the interdiction from the Throne of Greece of the members of the Families reigning at the three Protecting Courts, adding that since the English Cabinet had deemed it useful to repeat at Athens the existence of this engagement, Count Bloudoff had been directed to speak in that sense, acting in concert with his French colleague, if the English Minister should receive orders to take this step.

We have been informed that our Representative at Athens and the French Minister have accordingly made to the Provisional Government a declaration conceived in this sense.

The English Minister appears to have received orders to join in this declaration at a later time, that is to say, after the signature of the notes exchanged between the Cabinets of Russia and England on the 22nd of November.

To remove fully every kind of doubt regarding our attitude, not only did the Imperial Cabinet bring to the knowledge of the Cabinet of London the instructions with which Count Bloudoff was now furnished, but also the Representatives of His Majesty the Emperor at Paris and at London received by telegraph, on the 18th of November, orders to declare that we had never announced the candidateship of Monseigneur the Duke of Leuchtenberg; that, as to us, this candidateship had no existence politically, whatever interpretation the Treaty might be susceptible of legally, and that consequently there was nothing to hinder the three Courts from deliberating on the choice of possible candidates for the Greek Throne.

The Government of Her Britannic Majesty having avowed themselves fully satisfied with this declaration, our Ambassador proposed to record it in a reciprocal engagement, and notes to this effect were signed and exchanged, on the 22nd November, between the Russian Ambassador in London and the Principal Secretary of State of Her Britannic Majesty. They recite the engagement which excludes from the Hellenic Throne the members of the three Reigning Families, and state that it is mutually agreed upon to declare null and void the election of Monseigneur the Duke of Leuchtenberg, or that of His Royal Highness the Prince Alfred, if the one or the other should be called to the Throne of Greece by the desire of the nation.

The French Cabinet has been invited by the two Courts to adhere to this engagement.

Such is the course, Sir, which the Imperial Cabinet has followed from the beginning of this crisis up to its present development. It has been imbued, as you may convince yourself, with the general principle which governs the policy of our august Master, that is to say, that a frank and loyal understanding between the Great Powers, apart from all political rivalry and every calculation of interest, is the only mode of averting complications which menace the repose of the East and the peace of Europe, and which since the war of 1856 have grown more numerous and more pressing.

Difficult as may prove this task, we persist in not thinking it out of the reach of the efforts of Cabinets, if all approach it with like conciliating and disinterested views.

Accept, &c.
(Signed) GORTCHAKOFF.

Mr. H. Elliot to Earl Russell.—(Received January 10, 1863.)

My Lord,

Athens, December 28, 1862.

TWO demonstrations in favour of Prince Alfred were made yesterday in front of the hôtel where I am stopping.

The first consisted of the National Guard, from whom a numerous deputation was sent up to me, headed by their late Commandant, General Coroneos, who read a speech, setting forth that the Greek nation were resolved to persist in their determination to have Prince Alfred for their King, insisting that "vox populi" was "vox Dei," which could not be set at nought by a mere "human instrument called a Protocol."

I assured the Deputation that their persistence in their choice was flattering to us in the highest degree, and that the sympathy of Great Britain was heartily with the Greek nation, and might be counted upon so long as they continued to display the same moderation which has hitherto distinguished them; but that the expectation of having His Royal Highness Prince Alfred for their King must not any longer be indulged in, as the decision already announced by my Government was absolute and irrevocable.

What now remained, therefore, for them to do was, to secure the continuance of this goodwill by uniting in the choice of another Sovereign who appeared to have the necessary qualifications for upholding Constitutional Government, and for maintaining peace and good relations with other Powers.

The second demonstration was upon a very large scale, and consisted of many thousand persons, chiefly apparently of the better classes, who assembled in a dense crowd before my windows, cheering and exhibiting pictures of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred.

They likewise sent up a Deputation, which read an address, to which I shortly replied.

They left a copy of it with me, and I have the honour to inclose a translation of it herewith, together with my reply.

The substance of what I said was then explained by the Deputation to the people, who retired, as they had come, in the most perfect order.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

P.S.—I have the honour to inclose a copy of the address of the National Guards, which has been forwarded to me since writing the above.

Inclosure 1 in No. 135.

Address of the National Guard to Mr. H. Elliot.

Excellence,

Athènes, le 16 Décembre, 1862.

NOUS venons, moi, ex-Chef de la Garde Nationale, avec tous les officiers de ce corps, pour exprimer à votre Excellence nos vœux et nos ardents désirs pour voir assis sur le Trône de la Grèce le Prince Alfred, second fils de la gracieuse Reine Victoria. Outre le mouvement instinctif ce vœu provient d'un acte réfléchi de la nation, car il s'adresse à une grande nation, unissant la liberté à la puissance et possédant les vertus qui font la grandeur des peuples, et à une Famille Royale respectant les libertés de ses peuples et possédant toutes les vertus domestiques.

Nous connaissons qu'il y a une acte s'appelant "Protocole" qui met un obstacle à la réalisation de nos vœux; mais notre acte est divine car il s'appelle voix Divine—"vox populi vox Dei;" et quel est celui entre les humains qui assumera sur sa tête la responsabilité de contrarier la voix Divine? Donc nous persisterons jusqu'à ce que nos vœux soient exaucés.

Nous prions votre Excellence de transmettre nos vœux et nos dernières décisions à la gracieuse Reine Victoria, au Prince Alfred, et à toute la nation Anglaise.

(Signé) P. CORONEOS.

(Translation.)

Excellency,

Athens, December 16, 1862.

WE, the late Commander and all the Officers of the National Guard, have come here to express to your Excellency our ardent desires to see seated on the Throne of Greece Prince Alfred, the second son of the gracious Queen Victoria. In addition to the natural impulse which prompts us, this desire is the result of reflection on the part of the people, for it addresses itself to a great nation who unite liberty with power, and who possess virtues which constitute the greatness of peoples, and to a Royal family which respects the liberties of the nation, and which possesses every domestic virtue.

We know that there is a certain Protocol which places an obstacle in the way of the realization of our wishes, but our act is divine, for it is called the voice of God—"Vox populi vox Dei;" and who is he among human beings who will assume the responsibility of gainsaying the voice of God? We will persist, then, till our prayers are granted.

We pray your Excellency to communicate our desires and our last decision to the gracious Queen Victoria, to Prince Alfred, and to the whole English nation

(Signed)

P. CORONEOS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 135.

Address of Second Deputation to Mr. H. Elliot.

(Translation.)

Excellency,

THE population of the capital has not ceased, and will not cease, to repeat the wish (desire) of the entire Hellenic race for the inauguration of Prince Alfred as King of Greece.

Its wishes (desires) cannot be altered or diverted (estranged) by any opposition. Death only can dispel them.

Long live Alfred King of Greece!

Inclosure 3 in No. 135.

Mr. H. Elliot's Reply to the Second Deputation.

I THANK you for the expressions you have made use of.

I can assure you that there is not an Englishman who is not flattered by the unanimous and spontaneous exhibition of the desire of the Greek nation to choose Prince Alfred for their King.

It is the expression by a free people of admiration for our Sovereign and our institutions, of which we may be and are justly proud.

I regret that it should be my duty to explain that in this matter the hopes of Greece must be disappointed.

The Queen's Government have formally declared that if the Crown is offered to His Royal Highness it cannot be accepted, and it is only due to you to reiterate that, however deeply gratified we must be at the feeling which prevails throughout this free people, it would be in vain to expect any change in that decision.

I can, however, promise that the same proofs of sympathy and goodwill which would have been given under a Prince of the Royal Family of Great Britain will be extended to the Greek nation under another Sovereign.

No. 136.

Mr. H. Elliot to Earl Russell.—(Received January 10.)

(Extract.)

Athens, January 2, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith the translation of a Proclamation to the Greek nation, signed by 157 Officers of the Army, declaring their resolution to uphold the National Assembly, and to repress any encroachment upon its independence.

Inclosure in No. 136.

Proclamation.

(Translation.)

SINCE for some time past reports have been spread abroad prejudicial to the patriotism and union in the army, we, the Undersigned, both as private individuals and as officers, having regard for the true and great interests of our country, consider it a sacred duty which we owe to the public, which has entrusted its honour and security to our keeping, to express the principles which will guide our conduct, as follows, in the public print:—

1. We shall regard the National Assembly, which will shortly be formed, as the single and only authoritative power of the nation.
2. We shall honour and uphold every public act emanating from it; and
3. We shall repress every interference with its independence.

Athens, December 17th, 1862.

(Signed)

S. SOUNIE, *Lieutenant-General.*

(And 156 Officers and Ensigns of the Greek Army.)

No. 137.

Mr. H. Elliot to Earl Russell.—(Received January 10, 1863.)

My Lord,

Athens, January 2, 1863.

IN the account given by the Greek newspapers of the answer I returned to one of the Deputations from the Greek nation, I am represented to have stated that the acceptance of the Crown by Prince Alfred was "for the moment" impossible.

It is, perhaps, superfluous for me to assure your Lordship that no such expression fell from my lips, and that my language was such as could not have failed to convey that the decision of Her Majesty's Government was final and irrevocable.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 138.

Mr. H. Elliot to Earl Russell.—(Received January 10.)

My Lord,

Athens, January 2, 1863.

IT is difficult to ascertain the truth with regard to the present state of the Provinces.

In various districts there is unquestionably some brigandage; but I am not disposed to believe that it exists to any formidable extent, although there can be little doubt that it will be developed by any long delay in the settlement of the future Government of the country.

Up to the present time the unshaken faith of the people in their expectation of having Prince Alfred for their King has continued to have a beneficial effect.

It will be impossible for any other name to produce the same unanimity, or to excite the boundless enthusiasm with which that of His Royal Highness has been hailed throughout the length and breadth of Greece; but the last week has produced a notable improvement in the minds of various influential persons with regard to King Ferdinand of Portugal, many of whom would now much regret that His Majesty should decline the Throne.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 139.

Earl Russell to Lord Napier.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 10, 1863.

BARON BRUNNOW called upon me some days ago, and read to me a despatch dated 13th December, which Prince Gortchakoff had addressed to the

Russian Minister at Athens on the subject of King Otho's private property in Greece.

It appeared from this despatch that the Bavarian Minister at St. Petersburg had represented to Prince Gortchakoff that there was reason to suppose that the Palace occupied by King Otho at Athens would be declared by the National Assembly to be the property of the State; but that as that Palace and its contents had been built and acquired by King Otho from his Civil List and fortune in Bavaria, and from the private fortune of the Queen, the Bavarian Government requested that this property should be declared to be under the joint protection of the three guaranteeing Powers.

The Russian Minister was accordingly instructed, in case of any such intention being shown by the National Assembly, strongly to insist upon the inviolability of the private fortune of King Otho and of his Queen, and to act in concert with his colleagues of England and France, who the Russian Government presumed would receive corresponding instructions.

It will, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, be advisable to wait till a King has been elected, before raising any question on this subject, which can be properly considered and decided upon only by the Parliament or Law Courts of Greece.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 140.

Earl Russell to Mr. H. Elliot.

Sir, *Foreign Office, January 15, 1863.*
HER Majesty's Government approve your proceedings on the occasion of your first interview with M. Boulgaris and M. Diamantopoulos as reported in your despatch of the 25th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 141.

Earl Russell to Mr. H. Elliot.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, January 15, 1863.*

YOU have not failed to express to the Greek Provisional Government the sentiments of regard and friendly interest for the welfare of Greece which animate Her Majesty's Government.

Her Majesty's Government have rightly understood the election of Prince Alfred as a tribute to the virtues of his illustrious parents, and an act of homage to the freedom enjoyed under the British Monarchy.

The acceptance of the Crown by Prince Alfred, however, being impossible, Her Majesty's Government have thought it due to the people of Greece to endeavour to ascertain who, among the Princes of Europe, not excluded by the agreements of the Protecting Powers, would be likely to promote the welfare of Greece.

The first requisite, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, was attachment to constitutional principles, and a readiness to perform faithfully the duties of a Sovereign in a free representative Monarchy.

In this respect no one was more clearly eligible than King Ferdinand of Portugal, whose wisdom, moderation, and respect for liberty had been proved by experience.

King Ferdinand, however, I am sorry to say has, on account of his affection for his sons and for the country he has adopted, absolutely declined to allow his name to be put forward.

Mr. H. Elliot to Earl Russell.—(Received January 17.)

My Lord,

Athens, January 5, 1863.

YOUR Lordship's despatch of the 1st instant reached me yesterday.

I had constantly discouraged the suggestion that a Deputation should go from hence to convey to England the offer of the Crown to Prince Alfred, and I have again informed the Greek Ministers and other influential persons that such a course does not appear to your Lordship to be admissible.

I find, however, that a very universal inclination prevails in favour of adhering to the proposal. It is urged by all those with whom I have spoken that the wish of the people to have His Royal Highness for their King must be ratified by the National Assembly, and be brought before Her Majesty's Government with the utmost solemnity.

It is considered that this could only properly be done through a Deputation or a special Mission; and, of the two, I rather encouraged the latter, though I urged that neither of them was necessary, as the answer of Her Majesty's Government could equally well be conveyed in writing.

It will probably still be ten days or a fortnight before the verifications of the elections will allow the Assembly to proceed seriously to business, and the question of the Deputation will then be one of the earliest which will occupy its attention.

I may mention that, among other reasons which are felt in favour of sending a Deputation, there is unquestionably a lingering hope that, if sufficient time is given, Parliament may reverse the decision of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the non-acceptance of the Crown by Prince Alfred. Indeed, it is hardly possible to convey to your Lordship an idea of the persistence with which the Greeks still cling to their hopes.

The right of Her Majesty or of Her Majesty's Government to decide upon the matter is sometimes indignantly denied; and it is occasionally seriously proposed to carry on the Government under a Regency, in the name of King Alfred, until His Royal Highness shall be of age, when he should for himself decide upon the acceptance of the Crown.

As long as it remains uncertain to whom it is desirable that the choice of the nation should be directed, the prevalence of the feeling in favour of Prince Alfred continues to have the most salutary effect, by preventing the country from being divided by a diversity of views.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY ELLIOT.

Earl Russell to Mr. H. Elliot.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, January 19, 1863.

IT appears from your telegram of the 13th instant that the President of the Provisional Government being at length convinced that the desire of the Greek nation to have His Royal Highness Prince Alfred for their future Sovereign cannot be realized, has expressed his hope that the British Government would recommend a candidate for the vacant throne.

I have already informed you by telegraph that Her Majesty's Government considered that it was very desirable that the Prince elected by the Greeks for their King should be well known for his liberal opinions, and not likely to violate the Constitution, and I have intimated that if the Provisional Government were disposed to accept favourably a proposal to recommend a Prince so distinguished, Her Majesty's Government might not be indisposed to do so.

Among Princes proposed of these qualifications, Her Majesty's Government consider that the Duke of Coburg might well be brought under the notice of the Greek Government.

I hope shortly to be able to write more fully on this important subject. Her Majesty's Government have no reason to question the correctness of the opinion formed by you soon after your arrival in Athens, that if the Greeks are not assisted

in choosing their future Sovereign, anarchy and confusion are but too likely to arise in Greece.

No. 144.

Earl Russell to Mr. H. Elliot.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 22, 1863.

THE great confidence felt by the Greeks in the constitutional principles by which Her Majesty has always been guided, has no doubt been the main cause of the spontaneous enthusiasm which has been elicited by the mention of the name of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred as King of Greece.

As, however, the three Protecting Powers have declared that the Protocol of February 1830 is still in force, you will declare to the Executive Council in Greece that His Royal Highness Prince Alfred cannot accept or wear the Crown of Greece. You will accompany this declaration with the expression of Her Majesty's full appreciation of the value of this unsolicited mark of friendship and trust on the part of the Greek people.

You will at the same time state that it appears to Her Majesty's Government that the first object of the Greeks should be to elect a King who will not set aside the Constitution by violence, nor pervert it by corruption.

The Princes upon whom the greatest reliance can be placed in this respect are those who have acquired a reputation in Europe by their consistent adherence to liberal principles, and those who have been accustomed to live in a free country.

In the former category there is no one more entitled to regard than the Duke of Coburg.

Her Majesty trusts that this suggestion on her part will be viewed by the Greek Government and nation in no other light than as proof of Her Majesty's due appreciation of the confidence shown by them in the British Royal Family, and in the principles of political freedom on which the institutions of Great Britain are founded; and as it is impossible that her son Prince Alfred can accept the Greek Crown, Her Majesty considers that she is only repaying confidence by confidence in suggesting for the consideration of the Greeks a Prince who by close and long-established connection with England may be deemed to possess some of the main conditions which the Greeks appear to be desirous of finding in the person to be chosen as their Sovereign.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

P.S.—You will read this despatch to the President of the Provisional Government, and, if he desires it, give him a copy of it.

R.

GREECE.

CORRESPONDENCE respecting the Revolution in
Greece: October 1862.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1863.*

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

No. 2.

PAPERS

RELATING TO

G R E E C E.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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Papers relating to Greece.

No. 1.

Protocole de la Conférence tenue au Foreign Office, le 16 Mai, 1863.

Présens :

Les Plénipotentiaires de France ;
de la Grande Bretagne ; et
de Russie.

LE Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique pour les Affaires Etrangères a ouvert la séance par un exposé historique des événements qui ont mis fin à l'ordre de succession établi en Grèce par la Convention conclue à Londres le 7 Mai, 1832, entre les Cours de France, de la Grande Bretagne, et de Russie, d'une part, et de l'autre Sa Majesté le Roi de Bavière, agissant en qualité de tuteur de son fils puiné le Prince Frédéric Othon de Bavière.

Les Plénipotentiaires ont pris en sérieuse considération ces événements, accomplis sous des circonstances entièrement étrangères à l'action de leurs Cours.

En présence de ces faits ils ont reconnu, avec un sentiment unanime de regret, qu'après trente années d'épreuve, l'ordre de choses établi en 1832 n'est point parvenu à se consolider en Grèce sous la Dynastie que la Convention du 7 Mai a appelée au Trône, en vertu du pouvoir délégué alors par la nation Grecque aux Cours de France, de la Grande Bretagne, et de Russie. Leur mandat est donc actuellement éteint : mais les négociations qui ont précédé la signature de la dite Convention, ainsi que celle de l'Article Explicatif et Complémentaire du 30 Avril, 1833, ayant été conduites avec le concours du Ministre de Sa Majesté le Roi de Bavière, les Plénipotentiaires de France, de la Grande Bretagne, et de Russie ont cru devoir constater l'intention de leurs Cours respectives d'offrir à l'auguste Chef de la Maison de Bavière un juste témoignage d'égards en l'invitant à autoriser son Représentant à Londres à prendre part à leurs délibérations.

Et après lecture du présent Protocole, rédigé d'un commun accord, les Plénipotentiaires de France, de la Grande Bretagne, et de Russie y ont apposé leurs signatures.

(Signé) B^{ON}. GROS.
RUSSELL.
BRUNNOW.

(Translation.)

Protocol of the Conference held at the Foreign Office, May 16, 1863.

Present :

The Plenipotentiaries of France ;
Great Britain ; and
Russia.

THE Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Her Britannic Majesty opened the sitting by an historical summary of the events which have terminated the order of succession established in Greece by the Convention concluded at London on the 7th of May, 1832, between the Courts of France, Great Britain, and Russia on the one part, and His Majesty the King of Bavaria acting in the character of guardian of his second son the Prince Frederick Otho of Bavaria, on the other part.

The Plenipotentiaries seriously considered those events which have been brought to pass under circumstances entirely foreign to the action of their Courts.

Such being the facts, they acknowledged, with an unanimous feeling of regret, that after an experience of thirty years, the order of things established in 1832 has not consolidated itself in Greece under the Dynasty which the Convention of the 7th of May called to the Throne, in virtue of the power then delegated by the Greek nation to the Courts of France, Great Britain, and Russia. Their commission is, therefore, actually at an end; but the negotiations which preceded the signature of the said Convention, as well as of the Explanatory and Supplementary Article of the 30th of April, 1833, having been carried on with the participation of the Minister of His Majesty the King of Bavaria, the Plenipotentiaries of France, Great Britain, and Russia deemed it proper to place upon record the intention of their respective Courts to offer to the august Head of the House of Bavaria a due testimony of respect, by inviting him to authorize his Representative at London to take part in their deliberations.

And after reading the present Protocol, drawn up by common consent, the Plenipotentiaries of France, Great Britain, and Russia affixed their signatures thereto.

(Signed)

B^{ON}. GROS.

RUSSELL.

BRUNNOW.

No. 2

Protocole de la Conférence tenue au Foreign Office, le 27 Mai, 1863.

Présens :

Les Plénipotentiaires de France;

de la Grande Bretagne; et
de Russie.

LES Plénipotentiaires de France, de la Grande Bretagne, et de Russie se sont réunis pour prendre connaissance du résultat de la démarche faite à Munich par les Représentants des trois Puissances Protectrices, conformément aux résolutions arrêtés en Conférence le 16 Mai.

Le Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique pour les Affaires Etrangères a annoncé que la Cour de Bavière n'a pas autorisé son Ministre accrédité près Sa Majesté Britannique à prendre part aux délibérations ouvertes à Londres.

Dans l'absence de ce Ministre, le Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique a cru devoir rappeler toutefois les réserves établies au mois d'Avril dernier par la Cour de Bavière, en faveur des branches cadettes de la Famille Royale de Bavière, que l'Article VIII de la Convention du 7 Mai, 1832, a substituées éventuellement à Sa Majesté le Roi Othon, si ce Souverain venait à décéder sans postérité directe et légitime.

Il a été convenu, d'un commun accord, d'insérer cette déclaration dans le présent Protocole.

Considérant néanmoins que l'impossibilité de mettre désormais à exécution les stipulations de l'Article VIII précité résulte d'un événement de force majeure, dont les trois Puissances Protectrices ne sont nullement responsables, les Plénipotentiaires de France, de la Grande Bretagne, et de Russie ont reconnu que leurs Cours, dégagées de leur mandat par des circonstances que la Convention de 1832 n'a point prévues, ne sauraient différer indéfiniment l'époque où il conviendrait de replacer la Grèce sous un régime conforme aux principes monarchiques qu'elles ont intérêt à maintenir dans le nouvel Etat fondé par leurs efforts réunis.

En conclusion, ils ont constaté que les événements qui viennent de s'accomplir en Grèce ne sauraient altérer la ferme intention de leurs Cours de veiller, d'un commun accord, au maintien du repos, de l'indépendance, et de la prospérité du Royaume Hellénique que la France, la Grande Bretagne, et la Russie ont contribué à fonder dans un intérêt général de civilisation, d'ordre, et de paix.

(Signé)

B^{ON}. GROS.

RUSSELL.

BRUNNOW.

(Translation.)

Protocol of the Conference held at the Foreign Office, May 27, 1863.

Present:

The Plenipotentiaries of France;
Great Britain; and
Russia.

THE Plenipotentiaries of France, Great Britain, and Russia met for the purpose of taking cognizance of the result of the step taken at Munich by the Representatives of the three Protecting Powers, in conformity with the resolutions adopted by the Conference on the 16th of May.

The Principal Secretary of State of Her Britannic Majesty announced that the Court of Bavaria had not authorized its Minister accredited to Her Britannic Majesty to take part in the deliberations opened at London.

In the absence of that Minister the Principal Secretary of State of Her Britannic Majesty thought it, however, his duty to make mention of the reservations made in the month of April last by the Court of Bavaria in favour of the younger branches of the Royal Family of Bavaria, which Article VIII of the Convention of May 7, 1832, substituted contingently for His Majesty King Otho, in case that Sovereign should die without direct and lawful issue.

It was agreed, by common consent, that such declaration should be inserted in the present Protocol.

Considering, nevertheless, that the impossibility of henceforward carrying into execution the stipulations of the aforesaid Article VIII results from an event beyond control, for which the three Protecting Powers are in no way responsible, the Plenipotentiaries of France, Great Britain, and Russia agreed that their Courts, while released from their trust by circumstances unprovided for by the Convention of 1832, could not indefinitely defer the time when it would be fitting to replace Greece under a system conformable to the monarchical principles which it is their interest to maintain in the new State founded by their united efforts.

In conclusion, they placed upon record that the events which have recently taken place in Greece cannot affect the firm resolution of their Courts by common consent to watch over the maintenance of the repose, of the independence, and of the prosperity of the Hellenic Kingdom, which France, Great Britain, and Russia contributed to found in the general interest of civilization, of order, and of peace.

(Signed)

B^{ON}. GROS.
RUSSELL.
BRUNNOW.

No. 3.

Protocole de la Conférence tenue au Foreign Office, le 5 Juin, 1863.

Présens:

Les Plénipotentiaires de France;
de la Grande Bretagne;
de Russie; et
de Danemarck.

LES Plénipotentiaires de France, de la Grande Bretagne, et de Russie, reconnaissant la nécessité d'aviser sans délai aux moyens de replacer la Grèce sous un régime conforme aux principes dont le Protocole du 27 Mai maintient l'inviolabilité dans l'intérêt général de l'ordre et de la paix, se sont réunis en Conférence pour s'entendre sur les arrangements à prendre d'un commun accord afin de réaliser les vœux de la nation Grecque, qui appellent le Prince Guillaume de Danemarck au Trône Hellénique.

Pour atteindre ce but, les Plénipotentiaires ont résolu, conformément aux ordres de leurs Cours, d'inviter le Ministre de Sa Majesté le Roi de Danemarck à prendre part à leurs délibérations.

Le Plénipotentiaire de Danemarck, en vertu de l'autorisation qu'il a reçue de sa Cour, s'est rendu à cette invitation.

Sur la proposition du Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique pour les Affaires Etrangères, les Plénipotentiaires ont procédé à prendre lecture :—

1. Du Décret en date du $\frac{1}{30}$ Mars, 1863, par lequel l'Assemblée Nationale a unanimement proclamé le Prince Guillaume, fils puiné de Son Altesse Royale le Prince Christian de Danemarc, Roi Constitutionnel des Grecs, sous le titre de George I, Roi des Grecs.

2. De la note en date du 4 Juin, par laquelle le Ministre de Danemarc accrédité près Sa Majesté Britannique annonce que d'accord avec Son Altesse Royale le Prince Christian, agissant en qualité de tuteur de son fils puiné le Prince Christian Guillaume Ferdinand Adolphe George, encore mineur, Sa Majesté le Roi de Danemarc accepte pour le Prince Christian Guillaume Ferdinand Adolphe George la Souveraineté héréditaire de la Grèce, mais à la condition expresse que les Iles Ioniennes soient effectivement réunies au Royaume Hellénique.

Après avoir mûrement examiné la teneur de ces documents, annexés au présent Protocole, sous litt. A et B, les Plénipotentiaires de France, de la Grande Bretagne, et de Russie ont annoncé l'adhésion de leurs Cours aux actes en vertu desquels le Prince Guillaume de Danemarc, du consentement de Sa Majesté le Roi de Danemarc et de son père le Prince Christian, est appelé au Trône Hellénique sous le titre de George I, Roi des Grecs.

Désirant faciliter la réalisation des vœux de la nation Grecque, les Cours de France, de la Grande Bretagne, et de Russie ont autorisé leurs Représentants à émettre les résolutions suivantes :—

§ 1. Le Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique a déclaré que si la réunion des Iles Ioniennes au Royaume Hellénique, après avoir été trouvée d'accord avec les vœux du Parlement Ionien, obtenait l'assentiment des Cours d'Autriche, de France, de Prusse, et de Russie, Sa Majesté Britannique recommanderait au Gouvernement des Etats Unis des Iles Ioniennes d'affecter annuellement une somme de dix mille livres sterling à augmenter la Liste Civile de Sa Majesté George I, Roi des Grecs.

§ 2. Les Plénipotentiaires de la France, de la Grande Bretagne, et de Russie ont déclaré que chacune des trois Cours serait disposée à faire abandon en faveur du Prince Guillaume de quatre mille livres sterling par an, sur les sommes que le Trésor Grec s'est engagé à payer annuellement à chacune d'elles en vertu de l'arrangement proposé à Athènes par les Représentants des trois Puissances et consenti par le Gouvernement Grec, avec le concours des Chambres, au mois de Juin 1860.

Il est expressément entendu que ces trois sommes, formant un total de douze mille livres sterling annuellement, seront destinées à constituer une dotation personnelle de Sa Majesté le Roi, en sus de la Liste Civile fixée par la loi de l'Etat.

§ 3. Conformément au principe de la Constitution Hellénique reconnu par le Traité signé à Londres le 20 Novembre, 1852, et proclamé par le Décret de l'Assemblée Nationale du $\frac{1}{30}$ Mars, 1863, les successeurs légitimes du Roi George I devront professer les dogmes de l'Eglise Orthodoxe d'Orient.

§ 4. Dans aucun cas la Couronne Grecque et la Couronne de Danemarc ne pourront se trouver réunies sur la même tête.

§ 5. Les Plénipotentiaires réservent à leurs Cours de donner aux dispositions ci-dessus énoncées la forme d'une Convention.

§ 6. Les Cours de France, de la Grande Bretagne, et de Russie employeront dès à présent leurs bons offices pour faire reconnaître le Prince Guillaume comme Roi des Grecs, sous le nom de George I, par tous les Souverains, et par les Etats avec lesquels elles se trouvent en relation.

Après avoir arrêté les résolutions énoncées dans le présent Protocole, les Plénipotentiaires y ont apposé leurs signatures.

(Signé) :
 BON GROS.
 RUSSELL.
 BRUNNOW.
 BILLE, *sub spe rati.*

Annexe A au Protocole (No. 3) de la Conférence du 5 Juin, 1863.

M. l'Envoyé,

Athènes, le 31 Mars, 1863.

J'AI l'honneur de vous faire parvenir ci-jointe, traduction Française du Décret que l'Assemblée Nationale a rendu hier, à l'unanimité, et par lequel le Prince Christian

Guillaume Ferdinand Adolphe Georges, fils puiné du Prince Christian de Danemarc, a été proclamé Roi Constitutionnel des Hellènes sous le nom de Georges I.

Cette élection, qui a été accueillie avec le plus grand enthousiasme par le peuple de la capitale, en mettant fin à la révolution du 23 Octobre, va ouvrir une nouvelle ère de bonheur et de prospérité pour la Grèce.

En vous priant, M. l'Envoyé, de vouloir bien porter le dit Décret à la connaissance [du Gouvernement] de Sa Majesté la Reine de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, je ne doute pas que celui-ci, animé de sentiments d'amitié pour la Grèce, ne voie avec plaisir la fin de la crise que nous avons traversée.

Agréez, &c.

(Signé)

D. E. MAVROCORDATO.

A M. l'Honorable Henry Elliot.

Décret XXV.

La Seconde Assemblée Nationale des Grecs à Athènes,

Décète :—

Article 1. Le Prince de Danemarc Chrétien Guillaume Ferdinand Adolphe George, fils puiné du Prince Chrétien de Danemarc, est proclamé par l'Assemblée, à l'unanimité, Roi Constitutionnel des Grecs, sous le nom de George I, Roi des Grecs.

Art. 2. Les successeurs légitimes du Roi George devront professer les dogmes de l'Eglise Orthodoxe d'Orient.

Art. 3. Une Commission de trois Membres, choisis par l'Assemblée, se rendra à Copenhague et lui offrira la couronne au nom de la nation Hellénique.

Annexe B au Protocole (No. 3) de la Conférence du 5 Juin, 1863.

Légation de Danemarc, Londres, le 4 Juin, 1863.

LE Soussigné, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté le Roi de Danemarc, à l'honneur, par ordre de son Gouvernement, de déclarer, que d'accord avec Son Altesse Royale le Prince Christian de Danemarc, agissant en qualité de tuteur de son fils puiné le Prince Christian Guillaume Ferdinand Adolphe George, encore mineur, Sa Majesté le Roi de Danemarc accepte pour ce Prince la souveraineté héréditaire de la Grèce, qui lui a été offerte par un Décret de l'Assemblée Nationale Hellénique en date du 1^{er} Mars dernier. Cette acceptation a toutefois été donnée dans l'attente et à la condition expresse que les Iles Ioniennes soient effectivement réunies au Royaume Hellénique.

(Signé) TORBEN BILLE.

(Translation.)

Protocol of the Conference held at the Foreign Office, June 5, 1863.

Present :

The Plenipotentiaries of France ;
Great Britain ;
Russia ; and
Denmark.

THE Plenipotentiaries of France, Great Britain, and Russia, acknowledging the necessity of determining without delay on the means for replacing Greece under a system conformable to the principles the inviolability of which is maintained by the Protocol of the 27th of May in the general interest of order and of peace, assembled in conference to decide upon the arrangements to be taken by common agreement for giving effect to the wishes of the Greek nation, which call the Prince William of Denmark to the Hellenic Throne.

In order to obtain this end, the Plenipotentiaries resolved, in conformity with the orders of their Courts, to invite the Minister of His Majesty the King of Denmark to take part in their deliberations.

The Plenipotentiary of Denmark, in virtue of the authorization which he had received from his Court, accepted the invitation.

On the proposition of Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the Plenipotentiaries proceeded to read :—

1. The Decree dated the 1st of March, 1863, whereby the National Assembly unanimously proclaimed Prince William, second son of His Royal Highness Prince Christian of Denmark, Constitutional King of the Greeks, under the title of George I, King of the Greeks.

2. The note dated the 4th of June, whereby the Minister of Denmark accredited to Her Britannic Majesty announces that, in accordance with His Royal Highness Prince Christian, acting in the character of guardian of his second son Prince Christian William Ferdinand Adolphus George, a minor, His Majesty the King of Denmark accepts for the Prince Christian William Ferdinand Adolphus George the hereditary Sovereignty of Greece, but on the express condition that the Ionian Islands shall be effectively united to the Hellenic Kingdom.

After having maturely examined the purport of these documenta, which are annexed to the present Protocol *sub litt.* A and B, the Plenipotentiaries of France, Great Britain, and Russia announced the adhesion of their Courts to the acts in virtue of which Prince William of Denmark, with the consent of His Majesty the King of Denmark, and of his father Prince Christian, is called to the Hellenic Throne under the title of George I, King of the Greeks.

Desiring to facilitate the realization of the wishes of the Greek nation, the Courts of France, Great Britain, and Russia, have authorized their Representatives to set forth the following resolutions :—

§ 1. The Principal Secretary of State of Her Britannic Majesty declared that if the union of the Ionian Islands to the Hellenic Kingdom, after having been found to be in accordance with the wishes of the Ionian Parliament, should obtain the assent of the Courts of Austria, France, Prussia, and Russia, Her Britannic Majesty would recommend to the Government of the United States of the Ionian Islands to appropriate, annually, a sum of ten thousand pounds sterling for the purpose of augmenting the Civil List of His Majesty George I, King of the Greeks.

§ 2. The Plenipotentiaries of France, Great Britain, and Russia declared that each of the three Courts was disposed to give up, in favour of Prince William, four thousand pounds sterling a-year, out of the sums which the Greek Treasury has engaged itself to pay annually to each of them in pursuance of the arrangement proposed at Athens by the Representatives of the three Powers, and accepted by the Greek Government, with the concurrence of the Chambers, in the month of June 1860.

It is expressly understood that these three sums, forming a total of twelve thousand pounds sterling annually, shall be destined to constitute a personal dotation of His Majesty the King, in addition to the Civil List fixed by the law of the State.

§ 3. In conformity with the principle of the Hellenic Constitution recognized by the Treaty signed at London on the 20th of November, 1852, and proclaimed by the Decree of the National Assembly of the 1st of March, 1863, the legitimate successors of King George I must profess the tenets of the Orthodox Church of the East.

§ 4. In no case shall the Crown of Greece and the Crown of Denmark be united on the same head.

§ 5. The Plenipotentiaries reserve to their Courts to give to the arrangements above set forth the form of a Convention.

§ 6. The Courts of France, Great Britain, and Russia shall from this moment use their influence in order to procure the recognition of Prince William as King of the Greeks, under the name of George I, by all the Sovereigns and States with whom they have relations.

After having agreed upon the resolutions contained in the present Protocol, the Plenipotentiaries affixed their signatures thereto.

(Signed)

B^{ON}. GROS.

RUSSELL.

BRUNNOW.

BILLE, *sub spe rati.*

Annex A to the Protocol (No. 3) of the Conference of June 5, 1863.

M. l'Envoyé,

Athens, March 31, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith a French translation of the Decree which was yesterday unanimously passed by the National Assembly, and by which the

Prince Christian William Ferdinand Adolphus George, second son of the Prince Christian of Denmark, is proclaimed Constitutional King of the Greeks under the name of George I.

This election, which has been received with the greatest enthusiasm by the people of the capital, will, by terminating the revolution of the 23rd of October, open a new era of happiness and prosperity for Greece.

In requesting you, Sir, to have the goodness to bring the said Decree to the knowledge of [the Government of] Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, I have no doubt that the British Government, animated by sentiments of friendship towards Greece, will see with pleasure the termination of the crisis through which we have passed.

Accept, &c.

(Signed) D. E. MAVROCORDATO.

The Hon. Henry Elliot.

Decree XXV.

The Second National Assembly of the Greeks at Athens,

Decrees :

Article 1. The Prince Christian William Ferdinand Adolphus George, second son of the Prince Christian of Denmark, is proclaimed by the Assembly, unanimously, Constitutional King of the Greeks, under the name of George I, King of the Greeks.

Art. 2. The legitimate successors of King George must profess the tenets of the Orthodox Church of the East.

Art. 3. A Commission of three members, chosen by the Assembly, shall repair to Copenhagen, and shall offer to him the Crown in the name of the Hellenic nation.

Annex B to the Protocol (No. 3) of the Conference of June 5, 1863.

Legation of Denmark, London, June 4, 1863.

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the King of Denmark, has the honour, by order of his Government, to declare that, in accordance with His Royal Highness the Prince Christian of Denmark, acting in the character of guardian of his second son the Prince Christian William Ferdinand Adolphus George, a minor, His Majesty the King of Denmark accepts for that Prince the hereditary sovereignty of Greece, which has been offered to him by a Decree of the Hellenic National Assembly dated the $\frac{1}{30}$ th of March last. Such acceptance has, however, been given under the expectation and on the express condition that the Ionian Islands shall be effectively united to the Hellenic Kingdom.

(Signed) TORBEN BILLE.

GREECE. (No. 2.)

Papers relating to Greece.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1863.*

No. 4.

PAPERS

RELATING TO

G R E E C E.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

Papers relating to Greece.

No. 4.

Protocole de la Conférence tenue au Foreign Office, le 26 Juin, 1863.

Présens :

Les Plénipotentiaires de France ;
de la Grande Bretagne ; et
de Russie.

APRES avoir signé le Protocole du 5 de ce mois relatif aux arrangements à prendre pour faciliter l'avènement du Prince Guillaume au Trône Hellénique, les Plénipotentiaires de France, de la Grande Bretagne, et de Russie ont jugé nécessaire de constater l'accord établi entre leurs Cours sur les deux points suivants :—

1. Quant à la garantie de l'existence politique et des frontières du Royaume de Grèce, les trois Puissances Protectrices maintiennent simplement les termes dans lesquels elle est exprimée par l'Article IV de la Convention du 7 Mai, 1832.

Il est convenu que les Iles Ioniennes seront comprises dans cette garantie, lorsque leur réunion au Royaume Hellénique aura obtenu l'assentiment des parties intéressées.

2. En ce qui regarde les obligations financières que la Grèce a contractées envers les trois Puissances Protectrices, par rapport au service de l'emprunt, en vertu de l'Article XII de la Convention du 7 Mai, 1832, il est entendu que les Cours de France, de la Grande Bretagne, et de Russie veilleront d'un commun accord à la stricte exécution de l'engagement proposé à Athènes par les Représentants des trois Puissances, et consenti par le Gouvernement Grec, avec le concours des Chambres, au mois de Juin 1860.

Les Représentants des trois Puissances en Grèce recevront à cet effet des instructions conçues dans le même esprit, pour servir de règle à leur conduite.

Les trois Cours se communiqueront ces instructions, destinées à sauvegarder leurs intérêts par des efforts réunis.

(Signé) BON. GROS.
 RUSSELL.
 BRUNNOW.

(Translation.)

Protocol of the Conference held at the Foreign Office, June 26, 1863.

Present :

The Plenipotentiaries of France ;
Great Britain ; and
Russia.

AFTER having signed the Protocol of the 5th of this month relative to the arrangements to be taken in order to facilitate the accession of Prince William to the Hellenic Throne, the Plenipotentiaries of France, Great Britain, and Russia judged it necessary to place upon record the agreement established between their Courts upon the two following points :—

1. With regard to the guarantee of the political existence and of the frontiers of the Kingdom of Greece, the three Protecting Powers maintain simply the terms in which it is expressed by Article IV of the Convention of May 7, 1832.

It is agreed that the Ionian Islands shall be included in that guarantee, when their union to the Hellenic Kingdom shall have obtained the assent of the parties concerned.

2. With regard to the financial obligations which Greece has contracted towards the three Protecting Powers, on account of the loan, in virtue of Article XII of the Convention of May 7, 1832, it is understood that the Courts of France, Great Britain, and Russia will in concert watch over the strict execution of the engagement proposed at Athens by the Representatives of the three Powers, and accepted by the Greek Government, with the concurrence of the Chambers, in the month of June 1860.

The Representatives of the three Powers in Greece shall for this purpose receive instructions prepared in the same spirit, to serve as the rule for their conduct.

The three Courts shall communicate to each other those instructions, destined to protect their interests by united efforts.

(Signed)

BON. GROS.
RUSSELL.
BRUNNOW.

CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO THE

ELECTION

OF

PRINCE WILLIAM OF DENMARK

AS

KING OF GREECE,

AND TO THE

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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Correspondence relating to the Election of Prince William of Denmark as King of Greece, and to the State of the Country.

No. 1.

Mr. H. Elliot to Earl Russell.—(Received April 13.)

My Lord,

Athens, April 3, 1863.

THE Government have received the most satisfactory accounts of the effect which has been produced by the election of the Prince William of Denmark as King from every part of the country.

Both on the mainland and in the islands, the news was welcomed with unbounded satisfaction.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 2.

Mr. H. Elliot to Earl Russell.—(Received April 14.)

My Lord,

Athens, April 4, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a collection of the telegraphic despatches received by the Minister of the Interior, describing the enthusiasm with which the election of Prince William of Denmark to the Greek Throne was learnt in all parts of Greece.

These messages have just been sent to me by M. Mavrocordato in the hope that they may be communicated to His Royal Highness' Family to convince them of the universal feeling of the country in his favour, and I beg leave therefore to forward them to your Lordship in original.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 2.

Bulletin of the Minister of the Interior relative to the Proclamation of Prince William of Denmark as King.

Telegraphic Despatches received March $\frac{19}{11}$, 1863.

Le Sous-Préfet de Livadie au Ministère de l'Intérieur.

Livadie, 4 h. 30 m. du soir.

LA nouvelle que le Prince de Danemark Chrétien Georges a été proclamé Roi de Grèce a rempli de joie et d'allégresse les habitants de toute la province.

Des vivats remplissent l'air. Un Te Deum est chanté dans ce moment.

(Signé) JEAN SPYROPOULOS.

Les Habitants de Livadie au Ministère de l'Intérieur.

7 h. du soir.

Toute la population de Livadie sans distinction de sexe ni d'âge, remplie d'allégresse, célèbre, en rendant des actions de grâce au Seigneur, l'élection et la proclamation de Georges I, Roi des Hellènes, et approuve, en versant des larmes de joie, la décision de l'Assemblée Nationale à cet égard.

Vive Georges I, Roi des Hellènes! Vivent les trois Puissances bienfaitrices, l'Assemblée Nationale et le Gouvernement Provisoire de Grèce!

Le Ministère de l'Intérieur est prié de donner communication du présent télégramme à l'Assemblée.

Le Préfet de la Phthiotide au Ministère de l'Intérieur.

Lamie, 6 h. 20 m. du soir.

J'ai reçu les trois télégrammes d'aujourd'hui. J'ai envoyé des exprès pour les communiquer partout. L'allégresse générale des habitants de la ville est indescriptible. Un Te Deum sera chanté demain à 10 heures du matin. La forteresse tire des salves d'artillerie. L'illumination commence dès ce soir.

(Signé) D. ZOTOS.

Le Sous-Préfet de Thèbes au Ministère de l'Intérieur.

Thèbes, 6 h. 20 m. du soir.

Ordre parfait. J'ai reçu et dûment publié vos télégrammes d'hier. L'élection du Prince Georges de Danemark a été généralement approuvée. Hier soir la ville s'est illuminée; l'illumination se répétera aujourd'hui et demain. Aujourd'hui à 9 heures du matin, un Te Deum sera chanté dans la Place des Espérides.

(Signé) TZAMADOS.

Le Préfet de l'Achaïe au Ministère de l'Intérieur.

Patras, 8 h. du soir.

J'arrive à l'instant. J'ai trouvé la ville remplie de joie.

Vive le nouveau Roi des Grecs, c'est le salut que l'on s'adresse généralement. On se prépare aujourd'hui pour une illumination, qui doit se répéter demain et après demain. Demain un Te Deum sera chanté.

(Signé) H. MICHOS.

Le Préfet de Mantinée au Ministère de l'Intérieur.

Tripolizza, 2 h. 10 m. de l'après-midi.

Ordre parfait. L'heureuse nouvelle de l'élection du Roi a rempli d'allégresse les habitants.

(Signé) ÆCONOMOPOULOS.

Le même Fonctionnaire au Ministère de l'Intérieur.

L'heureuse nouvelle de la proclamation du Roi a rempli d'enthousiasme le peuple, qui s'étant réuni dans la place publique, s'est rendu, en poussant de joyeuses acclamations, à l'Eglise, où un Te Deum fut chanté. On annonce de toutes parts un vif enthousiasme.

Le Sous-Préfet d'Argos au Ministère de l'Intérieur.

Argos, 8 h. 5 m. du soir.

Enthousiasme indescriptible à Argos. Les visages des habitants de toute classe se sont éclairés d'une joie indicible, dès qu'il fut connu que l'Assemblée Nationale proclama Roi des Grecs le Prince de Danemark Georges Guillaume Chrétien. Des acclamations enthousiastes et prolongées retentissent de toutes parts. Il y a eu illumination générale de la ville ce soir. Demain, un Te Deum sera chanté; l'illumination se répétera demain.

(Signé) E. KARAKASSOPOULOS.

Le Sous-Préfet d'Aegion au Ministère de l'Intérieur.

5 h. du soir.

L'élection et la proclamation du Roi a rempli la ville d'enthousiasme. La Garde Nationale et la population tout entière font retentir l'air de leur vivats.

(Signé) DIAMANTOPOULOS.

Le Sous-Préfet de Corinthe au Ministère d'Intérieur.

Je fais connaître avec bonheur que vos trois télégrammes, publiés aussitôt leur réception, ont rempli d'allégresse les habitants. Nous nous sommes rendus, au milieu des vivats et des acclamations enthousiastes, à l'Eglise, où un Te Deum fut chanté à l'occasion de la proclamation de notre auguste Roi. Ce soir il y aura illumination générale de toute la ville.

(Signé) T. PACHYJEANNIS.

Le Préfet de la Phthiotide au Ministère de l'Intérieur.

Lamie, 9 h. du soir.

Tranquillité parfaite. Joie et allégresse générale. La ville retentit d'acclamations pour le nouveau Roi. Illumination générale. La forteresse a répondu par un salve de 21 coups de canons à l'allégresse générale.

(Signé) D. ZOTOS.

Le Sous-Préfet de Livadie au Ministère de l'Intérieur.

L'ordre et la sécurité publics se maintiennent sur le pied le plus satisfaisant dans toute la province. Les habitants sont animés de la plus vive allégresse pour l'élection du Roi des Grecs Georges. Hier soir il y a eu illumination générale.

(Signé) SPYROPOULOS.

Telegraphic Despatches received March 20
April 19 1863.*Le Préfet de l'Achaïe au Ministre de l'Intérieur.*

Le Te Deum vient d'être chanté. Le peuple a salué avec des acclamations enthousiastes la proclamation du Roi. Nous nous trouvons dans une fête vraiment nationale.

(Signé) N. MICHOS.

Le Préfet de l'Argolide au Ministre de l'Intérieur.

A la suite du télégramme du Ministère sur l'élection du Roi, une salve d'Artillerie fut tirée à l'aube du jour. A 9 heures du matin Te Deum et 101 coup de canons. Ce soir une autre salve de 50 canons sera tiré. Le peuple a appris la proclamation du Roi avec une joie indicible. Tranquillité parfaite.

(Signé) ZAPHIROPOULOS.

Le Sous-Préfet de Corinthe au Ministre de l'Intérieur.

Faisant suite à mon télégramme d'hier, je vous informe que la tranquillité et la sécurité publique sont parfaites dans toute la province, et que le peuple est toujours animé de la plus vive joie pour la proclamation du Roi.

(Signé) T. PACHYJEANNIS.

Le Sous-Préfet d'Argos au Ministre de l'Intérieur.

Le peuple d'Argos, pénétré de la plus vive joie, fait retentir l'air d'acclamations enthousiastes et prolongées pour le Roi Georges. Pendant le Te Deum, qui vient d'être chanté, la ville d'Argos présentait un touchant spectacle; toute la population ayant déserté le marché, se poussait dans l'Eglise: les balcons étaient remplies de

dames ; les Compagnies de la Garde Nationale défilèrent en poussant des acclamations devant le balcon de la Sous-Préfecture. Allégresse générale et illumination de toute la ville ce soir. Je m'estime heureux de pouvoir vous transmettre, et, par vous, faire parvenir aux Puissances bienfaitrices, à l'Assemblée Nationale et au Gouvernement les vifs remerciements et la profonde gratitude des habitants pour l'heureuse solution de la question du Souverain, et pour la prochaine arrivée du Roi Georges.

(Signé) KARAKASSOPOULOS.

Le Sous-Préfet de Thèbes au Ministre de l'Intérieur.

Thèbes, 10 h. du matin.

Le Te Deum a commencé aujourd'hui dans la place désignée. Dans une voiture entourée de la troupe de ligne et de la Garde Nationale se trouvait le portrait du Roi, surmonté d'une couronne de fleurs. Le Te Deum fut terminé à 10 heures, dans l'ordre le plus parfait. Les cris d'allégresse et les vivats continuent dans toute la ville.

(Signé) TZAMADOS.

Telegraphic Despatches received March 21
April 27 1863.

Le Préfet de la Méssénie au Ministère de l'Intérieur.

Calamata, $\frac{1}{31}$ Mars.

Les télégrammes relatifs à l'élection du Roi sont arrivés à 11 heures du matin. Le peuple s'est réuni en foule devant l'hôtel de la Préfecture ; acclamations enthousiastes ; allégresse générale. Demain il y aura cérémonie ; deux discours seront prononcés. Illumination pendant trois nuits.

(Signé) G. DEMETRIADES.

Le Sous-Préfet de Corinthe au Ministère de l'Intérieur.

Aujourd'hui un Te Deum fut encore chanté, auquel assistaient la Garde Nationale, la troupe de ligne, toutes les autorités civiles et militaires, et les officiers de la frégate, qui tira une salve de 21 coups de canons. L'Archevêque prononça un discours approprié à la circonstance. Hier, et avant hier, il y a eu une brillante illumination ; elle se répétera ce soir. Allégresse générale dans toute la province.

(Signé) T. PACHYJEANNIS.

Le Sous-Préfet de l'Elide au Ministère de l'Intérieur.

Pyrgos, $\frac{1}{31}$ Mars, 5 heures du soir.

La nouvelle de la proclamation du Prince de Danemarck, Georges, comme Roi de Grèce, a été accueillie ici avec des acclamations enthousiastes et des cris d'allégresse. Des coups de fusils tirés en signe de joie ; le carillon des cloches et les vivats remplissent l'air. Une brillante illumination et un Te Deum officiel se préparent. J'ai fait parvenir l'heureuse nouvelle par des exprès aux communes, et aux provinces avoisinantes d'Olympie et de Triphyllie et à Zante.

La tranquillité publique parfaite.

(Signé) T. MEGAPANOS.

Le Sous-Préfet de Corinthe au Ministère de l'Intérieur.

Corinthe, le $\frac{21}{2}$ Mars 1863.

D'après les renseignements qui me sont parvenus de toutes parts, la joie et l'enthousiasme des habitants pour la proclamation de notre Roi sont indescriptibles.

La tranquillité et la sécurité publique sont parfaites dans toute la province.

(Signé) T. PACHYJEANNIS.

*Le Sous-Préfet d'Aegion au Ministère de l'Intérieur.**Aegion, le $\frac{21}{2}$ Mars, 1863.*

L'allégresse des habitants continue ; l'ordre parfaite. Le Sous-Préfet de Calavryta annonce que la nouvelle de sa proclamation du Roi y a été accueillie avec des acclamations enthousiastes. Un Te Deum y a été chanté.
(Signé) A. DIAMANTOPOULOS.

Rapport du Préfet de l'Argolide au Ministère de l'Intérieur sous la date du $\frac{19}{31}$ Mars, et le No. 2,011.

Aussitôt la réception de vos deux derniers télégrammes, j'ai ordonné leur publication au son du tambour. Le peuple a accueilli la nouvelle de l'élection du Prince Georges Guillaume Chrétien de Danemarck, comme Roi de Grèce, avec des cris d'allégresse, et des acclamations enthousiastes et prolongées. J'ai immédiatement publié le programme de la cérémonie qui a eu lieu aujourd'hui ; j'ai appelé la Garde Nationale sous les armes. Aujourd'hui un Te Deum a été chanté à l'Eglise de St. Georges, où des prières publiques ont été faites pour notre Roi Georges I. Les acclamations du peuple qui avait envahi la nef de l'Eglise se sont répétées avec enthousiasme. Le prédicateur, Macros, a prononcé un discours approprié à la circonstance. Le peuple de Nauplie a pris part à cette cérémonie avec des sentiments de la plus vive joie, convaincu que le Souverain qui vient d'être élu sous de si bons auspices remplira les vœux ardents de la nation Grecque. C'est avec bonheur que je porte ces détails à votre connaissance.
(Signé) A. ZAPHIROPOULOS.

*Le Préfet de l'Argolide au Ministre de l'Intérieur.**Nauplie, $\frac{21}{1}$ Mars, 9 h. 30 m. du matin.*

Ordre et tranquillité parfaite dans tout le Département. La peuple de Nauplie, à Argos, et à Corinthe, animé de la plus vive joie, parcourait, musique en tête, les rues et les places, en poussant des acclamations enthousiastes, au milieu d'une illumination générale.
(Signé) T. ZAPHIROPOULOS.

*Le Préfet de l'Achaïe au Ministre de l'Intérieur.**Patras, 9 h. 20 m. du matin.*

L'illumination s'est répétée hier et d'une manière plus générale. Les Consuls des Puissances amies ont pris part à cette manifestation de la joie nationale. L'ordre règne dans tout le Département.
(Signé) MICHOS.

*Le Préfet de la Phthiotide au Ministre de l'Intérieur.**Lamie, 9 h. 50 m. du matin.*

Ordre parfait. Le peuple continue d'être animé de la plus vive joie pour l'élection et la proclamation du Roi. Illuminations générales.
(Signé) D. ZOTOS.

Rapport du Préfet des Cyclades au Ministre de l'Intérieur. *$\frac{19}{31}$ Mars, 1863.*

Aussitôt la réception de votre dépêche et du Décret de l'Assemblée Nationale y annexé, j'en ai donné lecture en personne à tous les habitants de Syra, réunis sur la place Léotzakos ; en même temps j'ai publié le programme de la cérémonie civile et religieuse, et j'ai transmis des copies du Décret et de votre dépêche aux Sous-Préfets et aux Maires du Département, et j'ai averti par le télégraphe la Légation de Grèce à Constantinople.

Le Te Deum sera chanté aujourd'hui à 3 heures du soir. La Garde Nationale prendra part à la cérémonie. Les Consuls des Puissances étrangères en ont reçu avis.

En vous informant de ce qui précède, je crois de mon devoir de porter à la connaissance du Gouvernement que le Décret de l'Assemblée Nationale à peine connu, tous les habitants de Syra sans exceptions ont montré une joie indescriptible et un enthousiasme sans bornes.

(Signé) N. KALLISPERIS.

Rapport du même Préfet, sous la même date.

Me référant à mon rapport en date d'aujourd'hui, je viens ajouter avec plaisir que le Te Deum fut chanté avec la plus grande solennité. La place était remplie des habitants des deux sexes. Toute la Garde Nationale en armes et en uniforme a défilé après le Te Deum, aux cris de "Vive Georges I, Roi des Grecs!" "Vivent les Trois Puissances! la Nation! l'Assemblée! et la Garde Nationale!" de sorte que l'ensemble de la cérémonie offrait un spectacle vraiment touchant. Tout le monde animé d'un enthousiasme indescriptible.

(Signé) N. KALLISPERIS.

No. 3.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received May 25.)

(Extract.)

Athens, May 1, 1863.

AN affray took place about a fortnight ago at a horse-circus at Athens between some undisciplined and ill-conducted soldiers and the National Guard, in consequence I understand of a dispute arising out of the refusal of the military to pay the money demanded for seats at that entertainment. Several persons were wounded.

Yesterday evening the ill-behaviour of the soldiers it is supposed gave rise to another scene at the circus, when my Russian and Turkish colleagues were present.

Stones were thrown from outside the canvass tent in which the performance takes place, and I regret to say that one of these missiles seriously injured the head of Princess Karadja, who had accompanied the family of Phetiadis Bey to the circus.

There seems no doubt that this violence again arose out of the misconduct of the soldiers, who sought to revenge themselves for the resistance they had met with on the occasion to which I have alluded.

The Minister of War has promised to use his best endeavours to discover the culprits and have them punished.

This is only one of many instances which have occurred lately in Greece of the insubordinate character of the regular military force arising out of the recent revolution, and the disorganization of the army generally.

No. 4.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received May 25.)

(Extract.)

Athens, May 8, 1863.

I HAVE frequently mentioned in my correspondence that an unnecessary number of troops was kept at Athens, a portion of whom had always been in a state of insubordination that gave rise to great uneasiness, and that the authorities were guilty of great negligence in not attempting to put a stop to a state of things giving permanent cause of alarm.

Repeated acts of violence committed by soldiers at a French and Austrian horse-circus induced my French colleague to summon the heads of Diplomatic Missions to confer with him upon the subject in the presence of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and we all met for that purpose on Sunday last to hear from M. Bourée a recital of charges he had to prefer against the troops for surrounding the circus every night, and committing unpardonable acts of outrage.

M. Bourée also observed that these acts appeared to be premeditated, and that he hardly knew whether they might not be attributable in some measure to the designs of those who were anxious to give an unfavourable impression at Copenhagen of the political and social condition of Greece with a view to preventing Prince William of Denmark from coming here.

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As M. Delyanni could not deny the truth of the facts brought under his notice by M. Bourée with regard to the conduct of the soldiers, it was settled that the National Guard and the gendarmerie should do duty at the circus during the performance of that night, and that there should be no more performances there. Our conference then terminated.

On the same night, after the performances were over, M. Soulié, the Director of the Circus, who appears to be a very respectable and well-conducted person, requested a Greek officer of his acquaintance, and M. Schütz, the Director of the Austrian part of the establishment, to conduct to their houses two of the women who had been acting at the theatre.

Under this escort they were at a short distance from the circus crossing one of the public squares, when they were attacked by a band of twenty or thirty soldiers determined to take possession of the women.

The Greek officer resisted with his sword, and was thus enabled to protect the woman under his charge, and to place her in safety in her house.

The other unfortunate female was carried off at once by the soldiers, who were assisted in the perpetration of the crime by a patrol of soldiers, who joined them in this atrocity instead of assisting in the rescue.

They hurried her over mud walls and inclosures into some adjoining fields, and, after the most brutal usage, she was found three hours later by a patrol of the National Guard in a state of insensibility, and was brought back to Athens by them nearly in a dying condition.

When these facts came to my knowledge I at once determined to address as strong a remonstrance as possible to M. Delyanni, to be communicated to the Assembly, in the hopes of inducing that body to take efficacious measures for bringing the culprits to punishment, and for preventing at once by more activity and determination the recurrence of acts so disgraceful to a civilized nation.

Of this note I inclose a copy.

M. Bourée, I found afterwards, addressed a note on the same subject to the President of the Assembly.

These notes having been translated and read, a debate took place in the Assembly yesterday. I forward herewith to your Lordship a Report by the shorthand writer I employ, of the proceedings on that occasion.

M. Delyanni has since called upon me, and has assured me that some of the men who committed the atrocity to which I last alluded have been arrested and sent on board a Greek ship of war at the Piræus, and that every effort will be used to bring all the offenders to punishment.

In the meantime my note has been published in all the newspapers, and is, I hear, generally approved of by my colleagues and by the Greeks, although I have not thought it necessary to spare the susceptibilities of those who spend so much of their time in useless discussion, instead of endeavouring really to administer for the better government of the country.

I also inclose a copy of a report made to me by Mr. Rumbold, to which I beg to call your Lordship's particular attention.

I ought not to omit to mention that two of the performers at the circus, a young man named Kimberley and his wife, are English.

They have since called upon me to say, that on one night last week their house was surrounded by soldiers who attempted to force an entrance through the bedroom window, for the purpose no doubt of carrying off Mrs. Kimberley, a young and handsome woman. They were deterred from their purpose by a revolver which Kimberley threatened to use against them.

The principal culprits belong to the Infantry corps. The Cavalry, Artillery, Fire Brigade, and National Guard are all better-behaved troops; and the supineness, and I may even say unaccountable incapacity, shown by the authorities in not maintaining order better with such means at their disposal, is rendered thus more shocking and less pardonable.

I have not, as your Lordship will see, spared the culpable indifference hitherto manifested by the Greek Government and Assembly in the note I have written, and I have even ventured so far as to say that if such scenes were repeated I should not remain in Greece to sanction them. What I intended by that, and what I shall undoubtedly do, unless instructed otherwise by Her Majesty's Government, if these disorders assume a chronic form, is to retire on board one of Her Majesty's ships at the Piræus, and I have no doubt that my colleagues will be then glad to follow my example.

My belief and hope, however, is that every effort will be used to prevent the recurrence of these unpardonable crimes.

I have just received from the Minister for Foreign Affairs a reply to my note, inclosing a communication from the Assembly with regard to it, copies of which documents I have the honour to inclose, together with a copy of my acknowledgment to M. Delyanni of the receipt of his reply.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

Mr. Scarlett to M. Delyanni.

Sir,

Athens, May 4, 1863.

THE numerous acts of violence which have been committed with impunity for some time past by the soldiers of the Greek army at Athens upon the persons of foreigners have within the last few hours assumed so aggravated a form that I can no longer, in the character of Her Majesty's Representative, pass them over without pointing out to the Greek Government the evil consequences which must inevitably result from the continuance of these atrocities.

It is idle to discuss now whether these acts originated with a political design; whether they have the support and are paid for by foreign intriguers, as has been frequently stated; or whether they proceed from the rivalry of internal dissensions and the unpatriotic and selfish recklessness of those unworthy Greeks alone who may be ready to sacrifice their country's good at the altar of paltry personal ambition.

Without referring in particular to other acts of an inexcusably culpable nature which have taken place for some time past at the French circus and elsewhere in Athens, it is enough for me to allude to the violence committed last night on an unfortunate Austrian woman who had been performing at the circus, and who was assaulted by a band of soldiers, although under the protection of a Greek officer, carried off into the fields, and abandoned there, and who is now at the point of death from the effects of the violence done to her person by her brutal captors.

It is now, Sir, not only my duty to call upon the Greek Government and the Assembly to take instant measures for bringing these criminals to condign punishment, but to act in such a manner in future as will give to foreign residents at Athens and throughout the rest of Greece some guarantee for their personal safety.

Until lately I had reason to think that the conduct of the Greek Government and Greek people deserved all praise for the patience and moderation shown under severe political trials.

The assurance that the vacant Throne would be shortly filled by a Prince whose choice is approved of by Great Britain, France, and Russia, was calculated, I had hoped, not to increase, but to heal political divisions and to secure public safety.

My disappointment at the non-realisation of these hopes is great. Anarchy in one of its worst forms prevails at Athens. The reputation of Greece is now sullied by the commission of such unpardonable offences—directed too, chiefly against foreigners—that the subjects of all nations are in constant alarm and danger.

It may be attributed to foreign agency, of which the malevolent and villainous are the organs.

It may result only from the utter incapacity of the civil and military authorities to control an undisciplined and turbulent soldiery; but be the cause what it may, I, as the Representative of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, can no longer sanction such crimes and indignities by my presence in Greece.

I have to request, Sir, that you will communicate without delay to the Assembly the contents of this note, and that you will inform that Body that I have determined upon quitting this capital if this state of affairs is not put an end to by prompt and vigorous measures on the part of the Greek Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 4.

Procès-Verbal of the Sitting of the National Assembly of May 5, 1863.

A L'OUVERTURE de la séance monta à la tribune M. Delyanni, Ministre de l'Extérieur, et annonça à l'Assemblée qu'il venait de recevoir un télégramme de Copenhague de la part de la Commission Grecque, par lequel celle-ci répond aux différentes questions du Ministre de l'Extérieur, savoir, qu'elle est arrivée le 13 du mois, que le 14 elle se présenta au Ministre de l'Extérieur de Danemark, qui lui dit de la part de son Souverain qu'un Protocole doit être rédigé et que les petites difficultés surgies au sujet de la Couronne Grecque disparaîtront bientôt. Le 15 du même mois elle se présenta au Roi de Danemark, et ensuite au Prince Christian, père du Roi de la Grèce.

Après ce télégramme l'Assemblée procéda à la discussion de la loi sur les impôts, et délibéra de discuter sur chaque loi spéciale. Elle décréta 5 pour cent sur les céréales, au lieu de 9 pour cent d'après le Décret existant. Quant aux impôts concernant l'usufruit l'Assemblée adopta sans aucune diminution l'impôt de 15 pour cent.

Comme quelques-uns des Représentants proposèrent que la réunion d'aujourd'hui avait pour but la discussion concernant la note du Ministre d'Angleterre, le Président de l'Assemblée demanda aux Représentants s'ils voulaient interrompre la discussion de la loi des impôts pour prendre en considération la susdite note. L'Assemblée adopta le second.

Et d'abord M. Petzali (Représentant de Scirochory) prit le premier la parole et dit que les événements qui viennent d'avoir lieu tout récemment et les notes des Ministres d'Angleterre et de France font voir leur gravité, ce que l'Assemblée n'a pu apprécier. Il accusa ensuite le système gouvernemental actuel; ce que font voir, ajouta-t-il, aussi les susdites notes. Il ajouta que dans ces deux notes on peut remarquer le même esprit à la différence seulement du style. Le Ministre Français parle avec cette modération si naturelle chez cette grande nation. Le Ministre d'Angleterre tient le langage d'un père affectueux qui gronde ses enfants. Il loua l'Angleterre de tous les services qu'elle nous a rendu pendant notre position critique, en nous indiquant tous les dangers dont nous étions menacés. Je ne sais pas, ajouta-t-il, dans quelle position nous nous serions trouvés sans le secours de cette grande nation, surtout avec le peu de capacité dont nous avons fait preuve dans l'administration intérieure de l'Etat. Après ces marques de faveur de la part de cette Puissance il serait impardonnable de ne pas réfléchir sérieusement sur les sujets de la susdite note. Il proposa ensuite à l'Assemblée de changer la forme du Gouvernement et de n'élire qu'un Président seulement du Ministère, en lui commitant le soin de choisir lui-même ses Ministres afin qu'ils soient tous d'accord. Il proposa encore de prendre des mesures extraordinaires et efficaces pour prévenir les brigandages qui commencent à s'exercer dans les environs de l'Attique et les désordres de l'armée; il croit nécessaire à cet effet d'établir une cour martiale extraordinaire, qui prononcerait sur les soldats et les brigands à la fois.

M. Saripolos (Représentant de l'Université) prit la parole et se prononça contre les mesures extraordinaires, qui selon lui feront voir que la Grèce se trouve dans une anarchie complète. Je n'approuve pas non plus, dit-il, une cour martiale extraordinaire, qui sans doute porterait atteinte au noble caractère de l'armée, si l'on trouve trente ou quarante soldats tout au plus indisciplinés. Quant à la note du Ministre d'Angleterre, elle ne devait, dit-il, être adressée qu'au Ministre de l'Extérieur seulement. Il remarqua encore que certaines phrases insérées dans cette note blessent l'amour-propre de la nation Grecque. Que M. le Ministre d'Angleterre ne devait pas à cause de quelques malfaiteurs condamner toute la nation. Il ajouta que les mots énoncés dans la note "que l'élection du Roi de la Grèce a été approuvée par les trois Grandes Puissances" est une expression humiliante pour la souveraineté et l'indépendance de la nation Grecque. Il continuait encore de parler, mais le bruit qu'on faisait dans l'Assemblée pour ne pas l'entendre ne permit pas de distinguer ce qu'il disait.

Le Président de l'Assemblée ayant essayé en vain de rétablir le silence, les uns voulant faire taire M. Saripolos, les autres l'écouter, interrompit la discussion pendant une demi-heure.

Ensuite, M. Calligas (Représentant d'Attique) proposa à l'Assemblée la réponse suivante à la susdite note :—

"L'Assemblée Nationale commet au Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de communiquer au Ministre d'Angleterre les regrets de l'Assemblée et leur extrême indignation en même temps au sujet de l'attentat commis par quelques malfaiteurs dont il est question dans la note mentionnée du Ministre d'Angleterre; qu'elle a exigé la prompte punition des criminels d'après les lois en vigueur. L'Assemblée croit avec confiance que le Ministre de Sa Majesté Britannique ne doit point douter du soin assidu de l'Assemblée, qui est l'interprète du sentiment national, en faveur de la sûreté de tous les citoyens et surtout de tous les sujets étrangers."

L'Assemblée Nationale adopta le Décret de M. Calligas, et termina sa séance d'aujourd'hui.

(Translation.)

AT the opening of the sitting M. Delyanni ascended the tribune and announced to the Assembly that he had just received a telegram from Copenhagen from the Greek Commission, by which the latter replies to the different questions of the Minister of the Exterior, namely, that they arrived on the 13th of the month; that on the 14th they presented themselves before the Danish Minister of the Exterior, who informed them, on the part of his Sovereign, that a Protocol must be drawn up, and that the little difficulties which had arisen on the subject of the Greek Crown would soon disappear. On the 15th of the same month they presented themselves before the King of Denmark, and afterwards before Prince Christian, the father of the King of Greece.

After this telegram, the Assembly proceeded to the discussion of the law upon taxes, and agreed to discuss each special law. It decreed 5 per cent. upon cereals, instead of 9 per cent. according to the existing Decree. As to the taxes upon the usufruct, the Assembly adopted, without any diminution, the tax of 15 per cent.

As some of the Representatives proposed that the object of the present meeting should be the discussion of the note of the English Minister, the President of the Assembly asked the Representatives if they would interrupt the discussion of the law of taxes to take into consideration the above-mentioned note. The Assembly adopted the second.

M. Petzali (the Representative of Scirochory) then spoke first. He said that the events which have recently taken place, the gravity of which has been shown by the notes of the Ministers of France and England, have not been appreciated by the Assembly. He then accused the existing system of government, as may also be seen, he added, in the aforesaid notes. He added, that in these two notes the same spirit might be remarked, with merely a difference of style. The French Minister speaks with the moderation so natural to that great nation. The English Minister uses the language of an affectionate father who scolds his children. He praised England for all the services she has rendered us during our critical position, indicating all the dangers which menaced us. I do not know, he continued, in what position we should have found ourselves without the help of this great nation, especially with the small amount of capacity of which we have given proof in the interior administration of the State. After these marks of favour on the part of this Power, it would be unpardonable not to reflect seriously upon the subjects of the said note. He then proposed to the Assembly to change the form of the Government, and to elect only one President of the Ministry, entrusting him with the power of himself choosing his Ministers, so that they might all agree. He also proposed to take extraordinary and efficacious measures to prevent the brigandage which is beginning to exist in the environs of Attica, and the disorders of the army; he thought it would be necessary, for this purpose, to establish a court-martial extraordinary, which would pronounce sentence upon both soldiers and brigands.

M. Saripolos (Representative of the University) then spoke, and avowed himself to be against extraordinary measures, which, according to him, would cause Greece to fall into a complete anarchy. Neither do I approve, he said, of a court-martial extraordinary, which would no doubt bring disgrace upon the noble character of our army, if they found, at the outside, thirty or forty undisciplined soldiers. As to the English Minister's note, it should have been addressed, he said, to the Minister of the Exterior alone. He further remarked that certain phrases inserted in this note wound the self-respect of the Greek nation. That the English Minister ought not, on account of a few malefactors, to condemn the whole nation. He added, that the words contained in the note, "that the election of the King of Greece has been approved by the three Great Powers," is an expression humiliating to the sovereignty and independence of the Greek nation. He still

continued to speak, but the noise made in the Assembly to prevent his being heard rendered it impossible to distinguish what he said.

The President of the Assembly having vainly attempted to restore silence, some desiring to stop M. Saripolos and others wishing to hear him, adjourned the discussion for half-an-hour.

After which M. Calligas (Representative of Attica) proposed to the Assembly the following answer to the above-mentioned note:—

“The National Assembly charges the Minister of Foreign Affairs to communicate to the English Minister the regrets of the Assembly, and at the same time their extreme indignation, upon the subject of the outrage committed by certain malefactors, which is the motive of the said note of the English Minister; that they have exacted the prompt punishment of the criminals, according to the laws in force. The Assembly confidently believes that the Minister of Her Britannic Majesty will not doubt the assiduous care of the Assembly, which is the interpreter of the national sentiment, as to the safety of all the citizens, and especially of all foreign subjects.”

The National Assembly adopted the Decree of M. Calligas, and to-day's sitting terminated.

Inclosure 3 in No. 4.

Mr. Rumbold to Mr. Scarlett,

Sir,

Athens, May 7, 1863.

IN accordance with your instructions I have made inquiries in trustworthy quarters which enable me to furnish you with the following facts, selected out of a number equally illustrating the excesses of the soldiery at Athens and the weakness of the civil and military authorities.

Three weeks ago a band of officers and soldiers tried to force their way at night into the private house of the owner of the principal hotel here in order to carry off his daughters. They retired on being fired at by the owner and his son-in-law. This took place at 10 o'clock at night, in the principal thoroughfare of Athens, and no attempt seems to have been made to arrest the offenders.

A few days later, a little after dusk, a lady who resides in the house of the French Consul was walking home with a friend when a party of four soldiers belonging to different corps seized her and dragged her into a carriage. They then drove away, but seeing they were pursued they threw her out of the carriage and thus escaped. The lady was so much injured by the fall and the shock to her nerves that she has since been confined to her bed. The offenders in this case have not been punished.

About the same time an attack was made by soldiers and non-commissioned officers on the Italian Vice-Consul's house, and an entrance was effected. The Vice-Consul, however, succeeded in arresting the leader of the band and putting the others to flight. But though the offender was handed over to the police, he either escaped or was released two days afterwards, when the Vice-Consul meeting him in the street caused him to be arrested again. On this second occasion his captivity does not seem to have lasted more than three days. The object of this attack was to carry off the women of the Vice-Consul's establishment.

Two soldiers in plain clothes called up a midwife in the middle of the night to come and attend a woman about to be confined. They then put her in a carriage in waiting outside with some of their comrades, and having conveyed her out of town used her so cruelly that she has since been laid up. Some of the circumstances of this case are specially revolting.

Perhaps the most wanton act committed of late is that of a drunken soldier, who, to test apparently the sharpness of his sword, cut off the nose of a poor child of four years' old that obstructed his way on the pavement.

These acts and many others have been daily done in the most frequented parts of the town; they were witnessed by the passers-by, amongst whom many are officers and National Guards—men armed and entrusted with the care of the public peace—and I cannot find that in any one instance the offenders have been brought to punishment. Indeed an officer of the National Guard, on whose statements I implicitly rely, assures me that soldiers who have been found prowling about at night—the men, in fact, who have committed all these crimes—have, when arrested and taken to the guard-house, been released within a few hours. My informant

declares that he has met and recognized such men later in the night when going his rounds.

It is notorious that the police are the best-paid and worst-composed force in the capital; yet the National Guard, who, if properly organized, would have both the will and power to put down the disturbers of the peace, has hitherto been hampered by instructions which prevented it from acting without the sanction of that police. Cases have even occurred where the police officers have refused to lend that sanction when called upon to do so by the National Guard.

This state of things, which has now lasted a long time and has been daily getting worse, may well be described as bordering upon anarchy, and it is impossible not to be painfully struck by the apathy of the authorities and indeed of a large part of the population.

As an instance of this I need only point out the brutal attack made upon the unfortunate negro servant of Soulié at the Circus on Sunday last. A large crowd witnessed the assault, and saw the soldiers force their way into the chemist's shop where the man had taken refuge and where his wounds were being bound up, and strike him as he lay helpless on the ground; yet not a hand was raised in his defence, and he would probably have been murdered but for the intervention of M. Bouréc, Jun., who drove the ruffians out by the production of an awe-inspiring revolver.

I will not here allude to the attack made on the women of the Circus, aggravated as it is by the conduct of the armed patrol which assisted the ravishers in their cowardly deed; but I may add that many similar crimes have for a long time past been committed, have remained unpunished, and have even to some extent been concealed by the authorities. Certain it is that instead of being either chastised or gradually dissolved and removed from the capital, the garrison of Athens is kept *in terrorem* over the heads of the population and the Assembly, and those are not wanting who believe that it is so kept as an instrument with which power can either be retained or acquired by the leaders of certain political factions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. RUMBOLD.

Inclosure 4 in No. 4.

M. Delyanni to Mr. Scarlett.

M. le Ministre,

*Athènes, le 25 Avril
7 Mai, 1863.*

L'ASSEMBLEE Nationale, à laquelle je me suis empressé de communiquer la note que vous avez bien voulu m'adresser en date du 4 Mai, a décidé, dans sa séance du lendemain, de m'inviter à vous faire parvenir l'acte qu'elle a voté dans cette séance, et qui est ci-joint en traduction Française.

En m'acquittant de ce devoir, je n'ai pas besoin de vous assurer, M. le Ministre, que l'attentat odieux qui a été commis sur la personne d'une femme Autrichienne faisant partie de la troupe de M. Soulié, et qui a motivé votre note, a soulevé l'indignation de tous les membres du Gouvernement Hellénique, aussi bien que de la population toute entière de la capitale.

Un pareil forfait, que l'humanité et la civilisation réprouvent, devait naturellement nous causer d'autant plus de regrets, il devait provoquer une indignation d'autant plus grande, qu'il est venu troubler l'ordre et la sécurité qui ont régné dans le pays depuis la révolution du $\frac{11}{23}$ Octobre, et qui nous ont fait mériter l'approbation du monde civilisé.

Les considérations qui vous ont dicté la note à laquelle j'ai l'honneur de répondre, et qui ont évidemment pour point de départ l'intérêt de la Grèce, ont été dûment appréciées par mes collègues et moi.

Je pense, toutefois, que les crimes isolés commis par quelques militaires délégués, qui, oubliant les devoirs du citoyen et du soldat, n'ont fait que se couvrir de honte et appeler sur leur têtes le plus sévère châtement, ne sauraient rejaillir sur la nation, en présence de l'indignation que ces actes criminels ont généralement soulevée, et qui vient d'être si solennellement manifestée par les Représentants de la nation, en présence des mesures énergiques prises par le pouvoir exécutif pour parvenir à l'arrestation et à la punition des coupables.

Déjà ces mesures ont porté leur fruit: presque tous les auteurs de l'attentat en question ont été arrêtés et livrés aux mains de la justice. Je suis convaincu

que l'application rigoureuse des lois de l'Etat à leur égard contribuera puissamment à assurer le maintien de l'ordre et du respect des lois, et à prévenir le renouvellement, à l'avenir, de semblables méfaits. Le Gouvernement Hellénique, ayant à cœur l'honneur national et les intérêts du pays, ne négligera aucun moyen pour faire en sorte que tous les sujets étrangers résidant en Grèce jouissent d'une entière sécurité.

Agréez, &c.
(Signé) THEODORE P. DELYANNI.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre,

*Athens, April 25
May 7, 1863.*

THE National Assembly, to which I hastened to communicate the note which you were so good as to address to me dated the 4th May, decided in its sitting of the following day to beg me to place in your possession the Act which it had voted during that sitting, and which is herewith inclosed translated into French.

In fulfilling this duty I have no need to assure you, M. le Ministre, that the odious assault which has been committed upon the person of an Austrian woman forming part of the company of M. Soulié, and which was the cause of your note, has aroused the indignation of all the members of the Hellenic Government, as well as the entire population of the capital.

Such a crime, reprobated by humanity and civilization, would naturally cause us the more regret, would provoke still greater indignation, by its coming to disturb the order and security which have prevailed in the country since the revolution of the 11th October, and which have won for us the approbation of the civilized world.

The considerations which dictated the note to which I have the honour to reply, and the source of which is evidently the interests of Greece, have been duly appreciated by my colleagues and myself.

I think, however, that isolated crimes committed by disbanded soldiers who, forgetting the duties of the citizen and the soldier, have only covered themselves with shame, and brought upon themselves the severest chastisement, cannot reflect upon the nation in the presence of the indignation which has been generally aroused by these criminal acts, and which has just been so solemnly manifested by the Representatives of the nation, in the presence of the energetic measures taken by the Executive powers to secure the arrest and punishment of the culprits.

These measures have already borne their fruits; nearly all the perpetrators of the assault have been arrested and given up to justice. I am convinced that the rigorous application in their case of the laws of the State will powerfully contribute to assure the maintenance of order and of respect for the laws, and to prevent the occurrence for the future of similar misdeeds. The Hellenic Government, having at heart the national honour, and the interests of the country, will neglect no means of assuring entire security to all foreign subjects resident in Greece.

Receive, &c.
(Signed) THEODORE P. DELYANNI.

Inclosure 5 in No. 4.

Extract from the Procès-Verbal of the Sitting of the National Assembly of May 6, 1863,

(Traduction.)

L'ASSEMBLEE Nationale charge le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de faire connaître à M. le Ministre de la Grande Bretagne, en répondant à sa note en date d'hier, que l'Assemblée a exprimé et exprime de nouveau sa vive indignation de l'acte odieux dont il est question dans la dite note; qu'elle a exigé du Gouvernement la punition immédiate des coupables d'après les lois de l'Etat, et qu'elle est convaincu que M. le Ministre de la Grande Bretagne ne saurait douter de la constante sollicitude de l'Assemblée, sollicitude à propos de laquelle elle est l'interprète fidèle des sentiments de la nation, pour le maintien de l'ordre et de la sécurité personnelle des citoyens, et particulièrement des étrangers vivant en Grèce sous la protection des lois.

Après la lecture de cette motion, l'Assemblée interrogée a déclaré, par assis et levé, l'accepter telle quelle.

(Translation.)

THE National Assembly charges the Minister of Foreign Affairs to make known to the British Minister, in replying to his note dated yesterday, that the Assembly has expressed, and again expresses, its lively indignation at the odious act which is the subject of the said note; that it has required from the Government the immediate punishment of the culprits according to the laws of the State; and that it is convinced that the British Minister cannot doubt the constant solicitude of the Assembly—solicitude in which it is the faithful interpreter of the sentiments of the nation—for the maintenance of order and of the personal security of the citizens, and particularly of foreigners living in Greece under the protection of the laws.

After the reading of this motion the Assembly, being interrogated, unanimously declared its acceptance of it as it stood.

Inclosure 6 in No. 4.

Mr. Scarlett to M. Delyanni.

Athens, May 8, 1863.

Sir,

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 7th instant, accompanied by a communication from the National Assembly in reply to my note of May 4th.

I have observed with some pain and surprise that you have treated my note as if it only referred to the violence inflicted upon an Austrian woman on the night of the 3rd instant, whereas by turning to that communication you will see that my remarks applied equally to a series of crimes of the same character, for the most part unpunished, which have been committed at Athens and elsewhere, and which extend over a period long enough to cause a general feeling of alarm and insecurity throughout the country.

I am glad to learn from your note that the Assembly is determined to use all its power to prevent the recurrence of crimes so disgraceful to civilization, and that some of the perpetrators of one at least of these atrocities are likely to meet with the punishment they deserve. I can but remark, however, that had a more vigorous policy been earlier pursued, these outrages upon society might have been prevented.

The Assembly will, I am sure, do me the justice of believing that no one is more sincerely desirous than I am, both personally and as Her Majesty's Representative, of seeing good government and order maintained in a country destined, I hope, to occupy in future an honourable position among European nations, and to show itself worthy of the illustrious names which adorn its ancient history.

I have to request that you will communicate this note to the National Assembly.

I am, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

No. 5.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received May 24.)

My Lord,

Athens, May 15, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to inclose an extract from the Report of the Session of the Greek National Assembly of the 11th instant, on which occasion my second note to M. Delyanni, dated May the 8th, was read by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and appears to have given general satisfaction.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

Inclosure in No. 5.

Extract from the Procès-Verbal of the Sitting of National Assembly of May 11, 1863.

A L'OUVERTURE de la séance M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères monta à la tribune et fit la lecture de la réponse qu'il remit au Ministre d'Angleterre. Et ensuite il lut aussi la contre-réponse du Ministre, dont les dernières phrases furent applaudies de toute l'Assemblée.

(Translation.)

AT the opening of the session the Minister for Foreign Affairs ascended the tribune, and read the reply which he had sent to the English Minister. He then read the rejoinder of Mr. Scarlett, the concluding sentences of which were applauded by the whole Assembly.

No. 6.

Earl Russell to Mr. Scarlett.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 28, 1863.

THERE can be but one feeling on the atrocious outrages recorded in your despatch of the 8th instant. Horror is excited in every bosom at the recital of such crimes, but indignation is added to horror when it is seen that the perpetrators remain unpunished.

If no vigorous measures should be adopted to restore order, or if those measures should fail, you will apply to me for instructions to retire on board one of Her Majesty's ships of war till such outrages are effectually repressed.

You will inform M. Delyanni of the orders you have received, and desire they may be communicated to the Ministry whose negligence has left crime unpunished, and has allowed the soil of Greece to be dishonoured by barbarous outrages.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 7.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received June 8.)

(Extract.)

Athens, May 18, 1863.

I INFORMED your Lordship in my despatch of the 15th instant that two British officers had been robbed by brigands on Mount Pentelicus.

I have since been assured by M. Platys, Minister of Justice, and by other Ministers of the Government, that the prevalence of brigandage in that part of Attica may in a great measure be attributed to the appointment of Lieutenant Mitza to the command of some troops quartered thereabouts, expressly designed for the repression of this crime, which, instead of preventing, he has encouraged.

Whatever may be the facts, Lieutenant Mitza, on suspicion of connivance with the brigands, has been arrested, and is now on board a Greek ship of war in the Piræus.

No. 8.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received June 7.)

My Lord,

Athens, May 26, 1863.

I INFORMED your Lordship in my despatch of the 15th instant of the robbery of two British officers on Mount Pantelicus, which occurred a short time ago.

I herewith have the honour to inclose the copy of a reply from the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs to the note I addressed to him on that occasion, of which a copy was inclosed in the despatch above mentioned. By M. Delyanni's note it appears that the Greek authorities have sent a body of their gendarmerie, and also eighty soldiers of Infantry in addition, to pursue with activity the bands of brigands in Attica, of which these robbers no doubt are a part; and a functionary called a "Juge d'Instruction" has been attached to the same expedition to aid in bringing such marauders to punishment, should they be caught.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

Inclosure in No. 8.

M. Delyanni to Mr. Scarlett.

M. le Ministre,

Athènes, le $\frac{9}{21}$ Mai, 1863.

C'EST avec indignation et regret que le Gouvernement Hellénique a appris le vol à main armée dont les deux officiers Anglais mentionnés dans votre lettre en date du 15 Mai ont été victimes aux environs du Mont Pantélique.

Mes collègues les Ministres de la Guerre et de l'Intérieur se sont empressés, dès qu'ils eurent connaissance de ce méfait, de procéder aux mesures les plus énergiques tant pour la découverte et l'arrestation des coupables que pour la répression vigoureuse du brigandage en général.

Ainsi, M. le Major de Gendarmerie, Bakaloglou, officier connu déjà par ses services signalés au point de vue de l'ordre et de la poursuite du brigandage, a été invité de partir sur le champ d'Athènes, pour faire une battue générale dans le Département de l'Attique et Béotie.

La colonne mobile qu'il commandait a été renforcée de deux brigades de Gendarmerie et de quatre-vingt soldats d'Infanterie. D'autres renforts vont lui être encore envoyées, sur la demande du Ministère de l'Intérieur.

Tous les endroits suspects des environs ont été occupés par des détachements de troupes qui ont été placés sous les ordres immédiats de l'officier susmentionné.

En ce qui concerne plus particulièrement le vol commis au détriment des deux officiers Anglais, les autorités judiciaires compétentes ont été invitées à procéder à une instruction en règle. Pour en activer l'effet, M. le Ministre de la Justice a été prié de faire attacher auprès du commandant de la colonne mobile un Juge d'Instruction spécial.

Les renseignements fournis par l'individu qui servait de guide aux officiers Anglais en question ont été communiqués aux Ministères de la Justice et de la Guerre.

Il y a tout lieu d'espérer que, par l'ensemble de ces mesures, on arrivera à un résultat satisfaisant.

Agréez, &c.

(Signé) THEODORE P. DELYANNI.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre,

Athens, May $\frac{9}{21}$, 1863.

IT is with indignation and regret that the Hellenic Government has learnt the robbery with violence of which the two English officers, mentioned in your letter dated the 15th May, have been the victims in the neighbourhood of Mount Pantelicus.

My colleagues the Ministers of War and of the Interior hastened, as soon as they had information of this misdeed, to employ the most energetic measures both for the discovery and arrest of the culprits, and for the vigorous repression of brigandage in general.

Thus the Major of Police, Bakaloglou, an officer already distinguished by his signal services in the cause of order and the suppression of brigandage, has been requested to start immediately from Athens to make a general onslaught in the Departments of Attica and Bœotia.

The moveable column which he commanded has been reinforced by two brigades of Police, and by 80 Infantry soldiers. Still further reinforcements are about to be sent to him at the request of the Minister of the Interior.

All suspected places in the environs have been occupied by detachments of troops which have been placed under the immediate orders of the above-mentioned officer.

As to what more especially concerns the robbery committed upon the two English officers, the competent judicial authorities have been invited to proceed to a formal indictment. To hasten its effect, the Minister of Justice has been requested to cause a special Magistrate to be in attendance upon the Commandant of the moveable column.

The information furnished by the individual who served as guide to the English officers in question has been communicated to the Ministries of Justice and of War.

There is every reason to hope that by means of these various measures a satisfactory result will be arrived at.

Accept, &c.

(Signed) THEODORE P. DELYANNI.

No. 9.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received June 7.)

(Extract.)

Athens, May 26, 1863.

I HAD the honour of receiving a telegram from your Lordship on the night of the 23rd, with reference to the signature on the 16th instant of the first Protocol of the Conference on Greek affairs assembled in London.

The arrival of this welcome intelligence enabled me on the following day to state in substance to M. Delyanni what had occurred, and the news spread abroad have already contributed to render the public mind at Athens tranquil, and to check the designs of parties here desirous of taking advantage of the delay which has occurred in order to mislead opinion in Greece as to the probability of the success of the negotiations which have commenced.

This first step is no doubt of importance, and it is to be hoped that it will shortly be followed by the signature of a still more important Protocol.

In the meantime every effort will be used by the Othonist party, and money, I am assured, will not be wanting, although I am unable to say from whence it is derived, in order to promote a counter-revolution, with a view of defeating the intentions of Her Majesty's Government with respect to the final acceptance of the Crown by Prince William of Denmark.

A collision has occurred at Missolonghi between the National Guard and the soldiers, of which I have not yet received any details. The telegram says nine soldiers were killed and wounded. It appears from the inclosed letter from Mr. Black to Mr. Ongley, dated the 22nd, that he considered it of great importance that a British man-of-war should proceed to Missolonghi, and in consequence Her Majesty's gun-boat "Surprise" repaired to that place from Patras without delay.

Much discontent prevails also at Patras, and a plot is on foot along the frontiers of Greece generally for invading Turkey.

The general opinion at Athens is that the only hope of delivering the country from these difficulties is by the speedy and formal acceptance of the Crown at Copenhagen, without which event, in a short time, Greece will become the scene of disorder and anarchy; a state of things its enemies are desirous of bringing about as soon as possible, in order to prevent the Prince of Denmark from ascending the Throne.

Inclosure in No. 9.

Vice-Consul Black to Consul Ongley.

My dear Sir,

Missolonghi, May 22, 1863.

A DETACHMENT of soldiers under the orders of an Adjutant Sous-Officier named Souidas, without order from the Commandant de Place, arrived here yesterday afternoon. The Nomarch and the citizens were at first opposed to their entering the town; this was overruled, however, by the intrigues of some of the military, and the National Guard being divided we are afraid of serious disturbances, Souidas having threatened to burn the town down.

To-day I have numerous applications, not only from Ionians but from several of the inhabitants, to be allowed to take shelter in the Vice-Consulate.

There never was a moment in which the presence of a man-of-war has been more necessary for the protection of British interests than the present one. I shall feel obliged by your communicating this in your letters to Athens, as I have not a moment's peace, so frightened are the people here.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) J. BLACK.

No. 10.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received June 7.)

(Extract.)

Athens, May 29, 1863.

THE inclosed letter from Mr. Black, Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Missolonghi, will show your Lordship that a good deal of anarchy and disorder prevail in that city.

Upon the whole, however, since I wrote my despatch of the 26th instant, the Government has received in general better accounts from the provinces, and greater tranquillity seems to prevail at Athens.

I ascribe the improvement of affairs here in a great measure to the arrival of your Lordship's telegram dated the 26th from London, informing me of the signature of the first Protocol on the 16th, and holding out a reasonable hope that two other Protocols would soon be signed by the Conference on Greek affairs in London.

The substance of this telegram I placed in the hands of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, who made use of it in the Assembly, and it is now generally believed that the negotiations are making progress.

The Assembly has been occupied chiefly with the changes to be made in the system of taxation.

The day before yesterday, M. Deligeorgi produced a sensation by calling on the Assembly to remain *en permanence* until measures were taken for investigating the conduct of certain non-commissioned officers, who sent a declaration to the Greek paper, the "*Φως*," purporting to express the opinion of the army, that all Governments since the Revolution had been traitors to their country.

The Assembly did not adopt the proposal made to it by M. Deligeorgi to continue to sit permanently, but agreed to an investigation of the circumstances.

It has turned out since that the above declaration emanated from two sub-officers *en retraite* who are drill sergeants for the National Guard.

The editor of the paper has been arrested for inserting a declaration both repugnant to the general opinions of the army at Athens, and contrary to the truth.

Inclosure in No. 10.

Vice-Consul Black to Mr. Scarlett.

(Extract.)

Missolonghi, May 26, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that a very serious fray took place on Sunday evening. A party of Artillerymen who had been sent away from Athens, but who it seems regularly get their pay, had a drinking party in one of the wine-shops; after a time a dispute arose, and in the brawl a man named Kritikos, the master of a boat that trades between this and Patras, was killed; a gendarme was also killed; an artilleryman is badly wounded, and three other persons were slightly wounded.

I called on the Nomarch yesterday with Captain Whyte, of Her Majesty's ship "Surprise;" he tried to make light of the whole affair, declaring it was a drunken brawl merely. I have, however, since received information which induces me to think otherwise of the whole affair. In the first place, it is generally asserted that Kritikos brought several thousand drachmas from Patras two days before, which were delivered to the leaders of the Opposition; that a large sum of money was found on his corpse, intended to induce soldiers to join in a revolt; and last evening the Acting Procureur du Roi applied for a guard of gendarmes for his house, having been threatened by some parties not to continue the examination of witnesses, as it did not suit their purposes.

A person who arrived from Ageinion yesterday, said that the shops were ordered to be closed early, as a disturbance was expected on Sunday night, but a signal was to be sent from Missolonghi. To-day everything is confusion and anarchy.

No. 11.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received June 13.)

My Lord,

Athens, June 4, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a despatch I have received from Mr. Black, at Missolonghi, in allusion to the murder of an English deserter from St. Maura, named Noble, and with reference to the general state of Acarnania.

I take the opportunity of mentioning to your Lordship, that by Admiral Smart's

orders from Malta, Her Majesty's frigate "Liffey," commanded by Captain Parker, has already reached Patras, and that Her Majesty's gun-boat "Surprise" is stationed at Missolonghi.

I also inclose the copy of a despatch received by Captain Hillyar from the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Pelican" sent to Styliada.

My colleague Photiades Bey informs me that the Turkish Consul at Lamia has assured him that only one person out of the twenty brigands mentioned in Captain Brock's despatch has been yet taken, and he thinks the information given to Captain Brock cannot be relied on.

I am happy to inform your Lordship that all the band of brigands who were present at and took part in the robbery of Captain Stocker and Lieutenant Dunn have been arrested and are in prison at Athens.

The soldiers commanded by Major Bakaloglou are still in pursuit of a more numerous band known to be in the mountainous region of Attica, and who very lately seized and carried off an inhabitant of the Plain of Marathon for ransom.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT,

Inclosure 1 in No. 11.

Vice-Consul Black to Mr. Scarlett.

(Extract.)

Missolonghi, May 31, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that having heard a report that an Englishman had been murdered in some part of Acarnania, I willingly availed myself of the offer of Captain Whyte, of Her Majesty's ship "Surprise," to take a run down the coast in order to gain better intelligence.

At Astako (Dragomestra) I found the people all busy in getting in their barley crop, consequently very quiet and very anxious for news of the arrival of the King, of which they begin to despair. From the postman who had arrived I learnt that an English "milord" had been murdered by some of the inhabitants of a village named Playia, which is on the Acarnanian coast, just opposite Santa Maura.

An extract from Baron d'Everton's letter to me on the subject will give the best information:—

"I am sorry to inform you that the mania for desertion seems to have taken entire possession of the men of this garrison, marked in one instance by a very tragical occurrence.

"The servant of the commanding officer deserted early one morning, taking with him 24*l.* from his captain's cash-box. The unfortunate man stopped at the nearest village to breakfast, and very foolishly let it appear that he had a considerable sum of money about him. For a dollar he engaged a horse to take him to Zaverda. He left in company with the son of his host and three other armed men. On reaching a thick wood he was basely murdered and his body cast into a thicket. His dog was despatched at the same time.

"The conduct of the Greek authorities, civil and military, on this occasion is beyond all praise."

Three men were brought in last evening, said to be the murderers of the deserter John Noble, of the 6th Regiment of the line.

Three other brigands were brought in by a detachment from the Valto. They have now so many prisoners in the gaol they do not know what to do with them.

The medical men have given it as their opinion that typhus fever will break out if one half the prisoners be not shortly sent to some other place.

The inhabitants here seem to give up all idea of the King's coming, and every one is looking out for himself; the consequence is we live in a continued state of alarm. The Nomarch, in endeavouring to carry out the orders of Government, was regularly mobbed the day before yesterday by a certain set of Palamas; he is obliged to have a guard of gendarmes in his house.

Inclosure 2 in No. 11.

Commander Brock to Captain Hillyar.

Sir,

"Pelican," off Stylida, May 28, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival during the forenoon of yesterday of Her Majesty's sloop under my command off Stylida.

Upon communicating with the town I was informed that the country was perfectly quiet, and there was no probability of any disturbance taking place; I thought it advisable, however, to visit Lamia and find the foregoing information to be correct. This part of the country is swarming with banditti, twenty were captured in the neighbourhood a week ago.

I propose leaving Stylida to-morrow morning for the Gulf of Volo, and if I find affairs in that part of the country likewise in a settled state will return to the Piræus.

I have, &c.
(Signed) P. BROCK.

No. 12.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received June 13.)

My Lord,

Athens, June 5, 1863.

M. DELYANNI, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, called upon me yesterday, and I took that opportunity of reading to him your Lordship's despatch of the 28th ultimo (received the same morning, by messenger Vyner), having reference to the recent military outrages. After perusing it, he expressed a wish to have a copy sent to him for communication to his colleagues, and especially to be shown to the Minister of War, who is, more than any other authority, responsible for the conduct of the troops at Athens.

I have complied with M. Delyanni's request.

I have, &c.
(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

No. 13.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received June 13.)

My Lord,

Athens, June 9, 1863.

I HEREWITH have the honour of inclosing the copy of a note dated the 6th instant, addressed to me by M. Delyanni, the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs, with reference to the suppression of brigandage in Attica, and the restoration of the most valuable part of the property stolen from the two British officers and their guide Alexander.

M. Delyanni also informs me that the remainder of the property taken will be restored.

I inclose also a copy of my note in reply to that of M. Delyanni above mentioned.

I have, &c.
(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 13.

M. Delyanni to Mr. Scarlett.

M. le Ministre,

Athènes, le 25 Mai 1863.

LES mesures énergiques prises par M. le Major Bakaloglou pour répression du brigandage dans le Département d'Attique et Béotie ont été couronnées d'un plein succès; tous les brigands qui infestaient ce Département, serrés de près par les détachements de troupes, se sont vus obligés de faire leur soumission.

De ce nombre sont ceux qui avaient enlevé aux officiers Anglais dont il est fait mention dans votre note en date du 15 Mai, les montres et les chaînes d'or que j'eus l'honneur de vous remettre avant hier.

M. Bakaloglou ajoute que les auteurs du vol commis au détriment de ces officiers sont prêts à rembourser le prix d'une bague en or appartenant à ces derniers qu'ils leur avaient aussi enlevée, et qu'ils ont perdue dans la suite.

En vous priant de me désigner le prix de cette bague, je saisis,

(Signé) THEODORE P. DELYANNI.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre,

Athens, ^{May 25}_{June 6}, 1863.

THE energetic measures adopted by Major Bakaloglou for the repression of brigandage in the Departments of Attica and Boeotia have been crowned with complete success; all the brigands infesting the Department, being close pressed by detachments of troops, have been compelled to lay down their arms.

Among them are those who had robbed the English officers mentioned in your note of May 15, of their watches and gold chains, which I had the honour to send the day before yesterday.

Major Bakaloglou adds, that the perpetrators of this robbery are prepared to repay the price of a gold ring which they had also stolen from the officers, and which they had lost when being pursued.

In requesting that you will favour me with the price of this ring, I am, &c.

(Signed) THEODORE P. DELYANNI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 13.

Mr. Scarlett to M. Delyanni.

Sir,

Athens, June 8, 1863.

I BEG to acknowledge your communication of the 6th instant, informing me of the measures taken by Major Bakaloglou for the suppression of brigandage in Attica.

The means adopted have been so far crowned with success, inasmuch as the brigands who robbed the two British officers, Captain Stocker and Lieutenant Dunn, appear to have been taken up.

I also have to thank you for the watches and chains belonging to these gentlemen and to the guide Alexander, which have been restored by the robbers, and which you were good enough to place in my hands to be returned to their owners.

You also state in the same note, addressed to me, that these brigands will pay the value of a ring taken from one of the party, but which they have lost, if I will state its value.

The ring in question was taken from the guide of the two officers, with whom I have just had an interview. The value of it, by his account, amounts to the sum of 60 drachmas, to which may be added the sum of 130 drachmas, the value of the garments of the guide Alexander, including 13 drachmas taken from him in money.

Similar able measures to those already adopted will no doubt give to the Greek authorities the means of obtaining the restoration of the remaining property stolen, more especially as, although brigandage in Greece has become almost an institution consecrated to violence and crime, it has, at least in this instance, under a more liberal form of government, evinced a greater consideration for its victims than at any other period on record.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

No. 14.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received June 20.)

(Extract.)

Athens, June 11, 1863.

THE arrival at Athens of the news of the formal acceptance by Prince William of Denmark to the Throne of Greece has been received in all parts of the country, as far as I have yet been able to learn, with the utmost joy and satisfaction.

It will no doubt dissipate effectually the various plots on foot for defeating the settlement of the Crown on the head of a Prince of the Danish family, and nothing

is now wanting but the acquiescence of the Ionian Islands for their annexation to Greece, with the consent of the great Powers.

From what I have since ascertained, it appears that it would have been almost impossible to have prevented any longer a complete disorganization of public feeling and opinion. Indeed, had it not been for this timely termination of a question of such vital importance any further delay must have led to the greatest disorder throughout the whole country.

No. 15.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received June 20.)

My Lord,

Athens, June 11, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of M. Delyanni's reply to my note, dated the 5th instant, referred to in my despatch dated the same day, with reference to measures taken for the repression of military crime.

The Greek Minister has since informed me that the Court of Assize at Syra, for trying the soldiers implicated in the outrage against the Austrian woman, will be opened on the 27th instant in that island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

Inclosure in No. 15.

M. Delyanni to Mr. Scarlett.

M. le Ministre,

*Athènes, le ^{29 Mai}
10 Juin, 1863.*

JE n'ai pas manqué de donner, selon votre désir, à mes collègues, communication de l'office, en date du 28 Mai, de Lord Russell, Principal Secrétaire d'Etat pour les Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté la Reine de la Grande Bretagne, dont copie vous avez bien voulu me transmettre par votre lettre du 5 Juin.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire a vu avec peine, M. le Ministre, l'impression causée sur l'esprit de sa Seigneurie par les faits regrettables qui se passèrent, à Athènes, dans le courant du mois d'Avril dernier; mais il espère que cette impression a été bientôt effacée par les renseignements ultérieurs que vous avez bien voulu, sans doute, lui donner sur l'état actuel des choses à Athènes.

Vous n'ignorez sans doute pas, M. le Ministre, que grâce aux efforts du Gouvernement Provisoire non seulement l'ordre et la sécurité publique, momentanément troublés par quelques malfaiteurs, ont été immédiatement rétablis, mais encore tous ceux qui avaient commis les crimes que nous avons tous déplorés ont été arrêtés et livrés entre les mains de la justice. Déjà les soldats qui avaient assailli le nègre attaché au service du cirque de M. Soulié ont été condamnés par le Conseil de Guerre siégeant à Athènes, et les individus coupables de l'odieux attentat commis sur la personne de la femme Autrichienne, Anne Eigelsperger, seront très prochainement jugés par la Cour d'Assises de Syra.

Le prompt rétablissement de l'ordre public, aussitôt après la cessation des représentations de M. Soulié, lesquels ont été involontairement la cause des crimes en question, la complète sécurité qui règne depuis lors dans la capitale, et la poursuite des malfaiteurs, sont autant de preuves constatant que le Gouvernement Hellénique, loin d'en avoir encouragé l'impunité par sa négligence, a, au contraire, sévi contre ces criminels, et n'a laissé aucun méfait sans le poursuivre de toutes ses forces et de tous ses moyens.

Agréez, &c.
(Signé) THEODORE P. DELYANNI.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre,

*Athens, ^{May 20}
June 10, 1863.*

I HAVE not failed to communicate to my colleagues, in accordance with your desire, the communication dated the 28th May, from Lord Russell, the Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, of which you were good enough to transmit me a copy in your letter of the 5th of June.

The Provisional Government has seen, with regret, M. le Ministre, the impression made upon his Lordship's mind by the lamentable facts which occurred at Athens in the course of the month of April last, but it hopes that this impression has been speedily effaced by the subsequent information which you have doubtless been so good as to give him as to the real state of things at Athens.

You are doubtless not unaware, M. le Ministre, that, thanks to the efforts of the Provisional Government, not only order and public security momentarily disturbed by malefactors were immediately re-established, but also all those who committed the crimes which we have all deplored have been arrested and placed in the hands of justice. The soldiers who had assaulted the negro attached to the service of M. Soulié's circus have already been condemned by the Council of War sitting at Athens; and the individuals guilty of the odious outrage committed upon the person of the Austrian woman, Anne Eigelsperger, will very soon be brought to trial at the Syra Court of Assizes.

The prompt re-establishment of public order immediately after the cessation of M. Soulié's entertainments, which were the involuntary cause of the crimes in question, the complete security which has since prevailed in the capital, and the prosecution of the malefactors, are so many proofs to show that the Hellenic Government, far from having permitted impunity by its negligence, has, on the contrary, proceeded against these criminals with all its strength and all the means in its power, and has left no misdeed unpunished.

Accept, &c.

(Signed) THEODORE P. DELYANNI.

No. 16.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received June 20.)

My Lord,

Athens, June 11, 1863.

A COMMISSION of Members has been appointed by the National Assembly, of which I inclose a list, for the purpose of taking into consideration the conduct of military officers who have been more or less opposed to the late revolution in Greece.

The intention appears to be to classify them into three sorts as offenders against their country:—

1st. That the most culpable should be dismissed entirely from the service of the army.

2nd. That the next in order should be placed for life on half-pay ("en retraite à vie").

3rd. That the least guilty should be placed on the retired list conditionally ("en retraite conditionnelle").

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

Inclosure in No. 16.

List of Military Commission.

M. CHRISTOS GRIVAS, Deputy of Vonitza; M. George Mavromichalis, Deputy of Ætyle; M. Ath. V. Petimeza, Deputy of Calavryta; M. Timoleon Vassos, Deputy of Lamia; M. Charilaos Suidas, Deputy of New Candia; M. Constantine Dialetis, Deputy of Thrichmie; M. G. N. Tzelios, Deputy of Xeromeros; M. N. Contaratos, Deputy of Naxos; M. A. Papadiamantopoulos, Deputy of Patras; M. Christos Mastrapas, Deputy of Doride; M. J. Papazafropoulos, Deputy of Mautinia; M. A. Charalambis, Deputy of Calavryta.

No. 17.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received June 27.)

(Extract.)

Athens, June 19, 1863.

I AM happy to believe that a great change for the better has been effected already in Greece since the news reached Athens and the Ionian Islands of the

final acceptance of the Crown by King George I. The whole country may be said now to be tranquil; the plots set on foot are disconcerted; and no probability now exists that the good order so lately established will not be satisfactorily preserved until the arrival of the King.

There will be in some quarters, no doubt, acts of brigandage, and one has lately occurred at Kastri, opposite the Island of Hydra, which has occasioned a visit to Kastri of Her Majesty's ship "Icarus."

But brigandage in general has diminished, and great activity and perseverance has been shown in Attica by the troops employed in pursuing the band which infested this province.

No. 18.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received July 4.)

(Extract.)

Athens, June 26, 1863.

THE Greek Government having determined to pay the claim made by M. Bourée on account of the outrage done to a French subject by the soldiers, as well as to pay for the alleged losses of the Director of the Circus, M. Soulié, has obtained from the Assembly, after a stormy debate on Saturday, a vote for the whole sum of 65,000 drachmas (about 2,321*l.*).

No. 19.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received July 4.)

My Lord

Athens, June 26, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of the report made to me of the proceedings of the National Assembly yesterday, consequent upon the return of the three Members of the Deputation from Copenhagen.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

Inclosure in No. 19.

Procès-Verbal of the Sitting of the National Assembly of June 25, 1863.

A L'OUVERTURE de la séance se présenta à l'Assemblée la Députation Grecque, et M. Canaris, un des membres de cette Députation, prit la parole et dit: "Nous avons rempli la mission dont l'Assemblée nous a chargé sans en dévier d'une ligne; toujours et partout nous avons été d'accord tous les trois. Nous étions pénétré du sentiment de patriotisme et de respect pour le corps qui nous a élu. A notre arrivée à Copenhague nous fûmes d'abord étonnés de voir que les affaires n'étaient pas encore terminées. Cependant on nous a témoigné beaucoup d'amitié; nous y avons trouvé des cœurs vraiment Helléniques, et surtout le cœur du père et de la mère du Roi, ainsi que du Roi de Danemark; dans le Ministère même une parfaite harmonie et des vertus qui ne sont pas communes. Tous étaient pour les Grecs, ainsi que le peuple de Danemark. On est même peiné," ajouta-t-il, "lorsqu'on entend quelque chose de désagréable chez nous; on ne demande que de la franchise et de la sincérité. Soyons donc en harmonie, soyons d'accord sur les intérêts de notre patrie, afin qu'on ne nous blâme pas dans l'étranger."

Puis il présenta une lettre du Roi à l'Assemblée; elle était écrite en Français. M. Zaimis, l'autre membre, en lut la traduction Grecque, dans laquelle il exprime son ardent désir de se rendre le plus tôt possible en Grèce sa nouvelle patrie, de ne s'occuper que du bonheur et de la gloire de la nation, qu'il a beaucoup de confiance dans l'assistance de la Divine Providence et dans celle des grandes Puissances, et qu'il vivra et mourra comme un vrai Grec (des vives acclamations et des vivats suivirent la lecture de cette lettre). Puis M. Zaimis présenta aussi le Décret par lequel le Roi de Danemark accepta, au nom de Son Altesse Royale le Prince George, le Trône de la Grèce; et un note du Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Danemark au Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de la Grèce sur le même sujet, que M. Delyanni reçut immédiatement.

Puis M. Grivas, le troisième membre de la Députation, monta à la tribune et dit :—

“Messieurs,—Revenus au milieu de vous, nous nous croyons bien heureux d’avoir pu remplir selon les vœux de tous les Grecs la mission dont vous nous avez chargé. Nous nous flattons de croire que pendant la durée des négociations, où nous avons été exposé d’un côté à une diplomatie impassible, de l’autre aux calomnies et aux intrigues Sataniques d’une politique intéressée à faire échouer le but important de notre grande affaire, nous avons pu concilier la dignité nationale avec les besoins nationaux. Enfin, Messieurs, par la persistance et l’ordre maintenue dans notre patrie on peut dire que le premier pignon de la grande œuvre de notre génération a été mis, qu’a adopté à l’égard des Puissances et sanctionné le cœur noble et le phil-Hellénisme sans bornes du Roi de Danemarck.”

M. Schinas proposa ensuite à l’Assemblée d’exprimer à cette occasion ses remerciements à la Députation pour sa conduite patriotique; ce que l’Assemblée exécuta sur le champ.

M. Deligeorge proposa aussi à l’Assemblée de faire une réponse à la lettre du Roi, car on ne doit pas laisser aucune lettre du Roi sans réponse.

L’Assemblée alors adopta l’opinion de M. Deligeorge et décréta que la Présidence fit une esquisse de réponse à la lettre du Roi, qu’elle soumettra à l’Assemblée.

M. Canaris proposa enfin à l’Assemblée de ne point s’occuper d’autre affaire aujourd’hui et de lever la séance.

Ce que l’Assemblée adopta sur le champ.

(Translation.)

AT the opening of the sitting of the Assembly, the Greek deputation presented itself, and M. Canaris, one of the Members of that deputation, spoke thus: “We have fulfilled the mission with which the Assembly charged us without deviating in any way from it; we have acted everywhere in strict concert. We were penetrated with the feelings of patriotism and respect for the Body which had elected us. On our arrival at Copenhagen we were at first astonished to find that affairs were not yet terminated. Much friendship was, however, shown us. We found there hearts truly Hellenic, those especially of the father and mother of the King, as well as of the King of Denmark: in the Ministry even there was perfect harmony, and many virtues which are not common. They were all in favour of Greece, as well as the people of Denmark. They are pained,” he added, “when they hear of anything disagreeable connected with us; they only ask for frankness and sincerity. Let us then be in harmony, let us agree upon the interests of our country, that we may not be blamed abroad.”

He afterwards presented a letter from the King to the Assembly; it was written in French. M. Zaimis, the other Member, read a Greek translation of it, in which he expressed his earnest desire to go as soon as possible to Greece his new country, to occupy himself only in the happiness and glory of the nation; that he has a strong confidence in the assistance of divine providence and in that of the great Powers, and that he will live and die a true Greek (loud acclamations and cheers followed the reading of this letter). M. Zaimis then also presented the decree by which the King of Denmark accepted, in the name of His Royal Highness Prince George, the Throne of Greece; and a note from the Danish Minister for Foreign Affairs upon the same subject, which was immediately received by M. Delyanni.

After this, M. Grivas, the third Member of the deputation, mounted the tribune and said :—

“Gentlemen, having now returned among you we consider ourselves happy to have been able to fulfil, according to the wishes of all the Greeks, the mission with which you charged us. We flatter ourselves that during the course of the negotiations, in which we were exposed on one side to an impassible diplomacy, and on the other to the calumnies and Satanic intrigues of a policy interested in causing the failure of the important object of our great undertaking, we have been able to conciliate the national dignity with the national requirements. Finally, Gentlemen, by the persistance and the order maintained in our country, it may be said that the first stone of the great work of our generation has been laid, adopted by the Powers and sanctioned by the noble heart and boundless philhellenism of the King of Denmark.”

M. Schinas then proposed that the Assembly should express on this occasion its thanks to the deputation for their patriotic conduct, which was at once done by the Assembly.

M. Deligeorge also proposed to the Assembly to make a reply to the King's letter, for the letter of a King should never be left unanswered.

The Assembly then adopted the opinion of M. Deligeorge, and decreed that the President should draw up a reply to the letter of the King, to be submitted to the Assembly.

M. Canaris finally proposed that the Assembly should not occupy itself with other matters for that day, and that the sitting should be terminated.

This proposition was at once adopted by the Assembly.

No. 20.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.--(Received July 4.)

My Lord,

Athens, June 26, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a supplement to the French paper "*La Grèce*," which has just appeared, containing an account of the reception by the Assembly of a letter from King George I.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

Inclosure in No. 20.

Supplement to No. 33 of "La Grèce."

Athènes, le 26 Juin, 1863.

NOTRE feuille était déjà imprimée lorsqu'a eu lieu la séance extraordinaire de l'Assemblée Nationale pour recevoir la Commission Hellénique, qui est arrivée Mercredi au soir, de retour de Copenhague. En effet dès que la séance fut ouverte, la Commission s'est présentée devant l'Assemblée; l'un de ses membres, M. Zaïmis, a lu (1) le Décret du Roi de Danemark concernant l'acceptation par Sa Majesté de la Couronne de Grèce pour le Prince Chrétien Guillaume Ferdinand Adolphe Georges; (2) une lettre autographe de Georges I à l'Assemblée Nationale. La lecture de ces deux pièces officielles fut accueillies avec le plus grand enthousiasme par l'Assemblée et par les Tribunes et le public aux cris de "Vive Georges I! Vive le Roi! Vivent les trois Puissances Protectrices!"

Alors l'Assemblée a voté des remerciements à la Commission pour avoir rempli fidèlement l'objet de sa mission auprès de la Cour de Danemark. Ensuite elle a décidé qu'ils sera fait une réponse convenable à la lettre du Roi Georges; puis le Président a levé la séance.

Voici la lettre autographe du Roi:—

Lettre de Georges I, Roi des Grecs, à l'Assemblée Nationale.

"Messieurs,

"Copenhague, le 11 Juin, 1863. "

"Obéissant à l'élan de mon cœur je voudrais accompagner du témoignage personnel de mes sentiments le message par lequel Sa Majesté le Roi de Danemark accepte pour moi la Couronne que la nation Hellénique m'a appelé à porter. Je me rendrai dans ma nouvelle patrie avec transport, pour vous prouver que dès à présent je ne connais plus d'autre devoir que de vivre et de mourir en bon Grec pour le bonheur et l'indépendance de la nation; et j'ai la conviction, Messieurs, que par votre aide, par l'amitié des Puissances, et surtout et avant tout par les secours de Dieu, les intérêts de la patrie, qui désormais seront toujours et partout les miens, vont prospérer à son avantage.

"Je suis heureux et fier, Messieurs, de pouvoir vous saluer par la voix de ces bons et nobles patriotes qui, nommés par votre confiance, se sont rendus ici loin de la patrie, pour me saluer les premiers comme votre Roi. Ils vous diront qu'ils m'ont trouvé plein de sympathie pour ma nouvelle patrie, et que je désire ardemment de pouvoir bientôt me trouver au milieu de vous. Acceptez-moi, Messieurs, avec la même confiance dont mon cœur est animé pour vous, et enseignez-moi de travailler avec vous pour la bonheur de ma belle patrie, que Dieu protège!

(Signé)

"GEORGE I."

(Translation.)

WE had already gone to press when an extraordinary sitting of the National Assembly took place for the reception of the Hellenic Commission, which arrived on Wednesday evening on its return from Copenhagen. As soon as the sitting was opened the Commission presented itself before the Assembly. One of its members, M. Zaimis, read (1) the Decree of the King of Denmark concerning the acceptance by His Majesty of the Crown of Greece for Prince Christian William Ferdinand Adolphus George; (2) an autograph letter from George I to the National Assembly. The reading of these two official documents was received with the greatest enthusiasm by the Assembly, and by the Tribunes and the public, with cries of "Long live George I! Long live the King! Long live the Three Protecting Powers!"

The Assembly then passed a vote of thanks to the Commission for having faithfully fulfilled the object of its mission to the Court of Denmark. It afterwards decided that a suitable reply should be made to King George's letter; the President then dissolved the sitting.

The following is the autograph letter of the King:—

Letter of George I, King of the Greeks, to the National Assembly.

"Gentlemen,

"Copenhagen, June 11, 1863.

"Obeying the impulse of my heart I desire that the personal expression of my sentiments should accompany the message by which His Majesty the King of Denmark accepts for me the Crown which the Hellenic nation has invited me to wear. I shall go to my new country with delight, to prove to you that from this moment I know no other duty than to live and die as a true Greek for the happiness and independence of the nation; and I have the conviction, Gentlemen, that by your aid, by the friendship of the Powers, and, above all and before all, by the help of God, the interests of the country which in future will always and every way be my own, will prosper to its advantage.

"I am happy and proud, Gentlemen, to be able to greet you by the voice of these good and noble patriots who, nominated through your confidence in them, have come here, far from their own land, to be the first to salute me as your King. They will tell you that they have found me full of sympathy for my new country, and that I earnestly desire soon to be able to be among you. Accept me, Gentlemen, with the same confidence which animates my heart towards you, and teach me to work with you for the happiness of my beautiful country, which may God protect!

(Signed)

"GEORGE I."

No. 21.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received July 12.)

(Extract.)

Athens, July 2, 1863.

THE telegram I had the honour to forward to your Lordship yesterday will only have informed Her Majesty's Government imperfectly of the deplorable conflict which ensued after the resignation of the Minister of War M. Botzaris, and the appointment to his post of his successor Colonel Coroneos. I inclose herewith a report made to me of what took place.

The belief is common that the brigand Chief Kyriakos, who had suddenly left Athens with several followers, some of whom had been soldiers in the battalion commanded by Leotzakos, was employed politically by the party attached to the fortunes of M. Boulgaris to create a disturbance at Athens, and bring on that conflict between parties which has unfortunately taken place.

When these men took refuge in a convent near Athens and in the neighbourhood of the barracks of Leotzakos, that officer was accused by Colonel Coroneos of being unwilling to assist in arresting them. On the other hand, it is affirmed that Leotzakos denies the truth of this charge against him, having declared that he only waited for proper orders to be given, which had he received he would have obeyed. However this might have been, he was summoned to a Council of Ministers, which he attended, on leaving which in the same carriage with Colonel Coroneos, and apparently on friendly terms with him, he was taken to the quarters of the Commandant of the place, suddenly arrested there, and conveyed directly on board

the Greek ship of war the "Minerva" at the Piræus. When the battalion he commanded learnt the news they adopted retaliating measures by immediately seizing the person of the Minister of Finances, M. Coumoundouros, and of the Minister of Public Instruction, M. Califronas, who happened to be driving in a carriage accompanied by Admiral Canaris, who was allowed to escape. These acts quickly brought matters to a crisis, and divided the army at Athens into two hostile camps. M. Roufos, the President of the Government, together with MM. Grivas and Canaris and Coroneos, are of the party of the Mountain in the Assembly, and occupied the palace with the troops who adhered to them, amounting to about 1,000 men. The Artillery corps quartered within the palace stables, and occupying the square in front of that building, as well as the Leotzakos battalion quartered on the other side of the palace at a greater distance, were now in open revolt against the constituted authorities, and were joined also by the greater part of the gendarmerie.

The National Guard appear to have been divided in opinion, but the most respectable of them favoured the Government, but remained entirely at home and passive during the struggle between the troops.

During the night a barricade was formed across the road leading by the Artillery quarters to the Palace, and early in the morning a cannonade was directed from thence against the Palace.

I have not been able to ascertain the number killed and wounded, but I believe they were as many during the day as 40 killed and about double the number wounded. Among the killed is a son of Admiral Canaris, who was struck by the bursting of a shell inside the Palace.

To put an end to this attack the Assembly was summoned to meet, and a deputation with a flag of truce sent to the chiefs of the two opposing forces, who consented to a suspension of arms.

In one instance I regret to say that the flag of truce was not respected, and one of the members of the Assembly, M. Messinezi, was fired upon and severely wounded.

The Assembly, in the hope of being able to bring about an agreement among the conflicting parties and prevent further effusion of blood, came at once to the resolution of dissolving the Ministry of M. Roufos, and invested the President of the Assembly, M. Kyriakou, with the whole executive power, intending in the following sitting to form another Administration.

In consequence the troops ceased firing, and those within the Palace, commanded by Colonel Coroneos, consented to evacuate it and return quietly to their barracks, since which there has been no renewal of the contest. The shops were not opened during the whole of yesterday, and are still shut, and some fear was entertained that a pillage of the town might have been attempted last night by brigands from the outside; and had the conflict between the troops not terminated as it did, there would have been reason to fear an attempt of this sort, but everything passed tranquilly during the night. I may mention here that the two Ministers who were arrested, as also M. Leotzakos, have been set at liberty.

This unfortunate struggle has been precipitated by the return of Grivas and Canaris from Copenhagen, against whose party in the Assembly M. Boulgaris is trying his strength, and as he has the greatest relative majority in the Assembly, and is supported by the greater part of the troops, his adherents seem sanguine of success.

The cries in the streets were "Down with the Ministers!" and these were accompanied with observations against them for their yielding to the French claims on behalf of M. Soulié.

Before ending this despatch I may observe here that Colonel Coroneos is much blamed by his opponents, and even by his supporters, for his conduct in arresting Leotzakos, a military Chief having the confidence of so large a body of the troops, and his unpopularity was augmented after he became Minister of War, by the immediate dismissal from his post of Colonel Papadiamantopoulos, who commanded the Artillery.

Inclosure 1 in No. 21.

Report.

Athens, July 1, 1863.

YESTERDAY afternoon great excitement was created by the news that the band of the brigand Chief Kyriakos, of about twenty-six men, had shut themselves

up in the Monastery of *Αγίων Σωμάτων*, distant about a quarter of an hour from the town, where they were surrounded by the gendarmerie and some other detachments of the garrison; later in the evening the same band, together with the gendarmes, united themselves to the Leotzakos Battalion, and what at first was taken as a mere affair between Government forces and brigands became in reality a political movement. Meanwhile the Minister of War, M. Coroneos, summoned Leotzakos to assist at a Cabinet Council; Leotzakos, accompanied by eight or ten of his men, attended the summons, and retired from the Council in company with Coroneos, who gave him a place in his carriage *soi-disant* to conduct him to his barracks, instead of which he took him to the "Commandement de Place," where measures had already been taken for his arrest and that of his followers. Leotzakos was immediately sent on board a Greek vessel of war at the Piræus, and his followers kept in custody here, but one of them managed to escape and give the alarm to his battalion, which in retaliation made prisoners Minister Coumoundouros, the Minister of Finances, and M. Califronas, the Minister of Religion and Public Instruction, from which time the affair began to assume a more serious aspect. The Leotzakos Battalion, the Gendarmerie, the Artillery, the armed Police corps, and part of the National Guard, are together; the other two battalions have taken their position in the Palace, against which the Artillery, &c., are firing. As far as I can learn up to the present moment about fifteen to twenty persons have been killed, and a much greater number wounded, among whom Aristides Canaris.

At about midnight a crowd or mob with part of the Artillery band in front paraded the Hermes and Æolus streets, shouting "Down with the Ministry!" and took the direction of M. Boulgaris' house, where a person from among them addressed M. Boulgaris, requesting him in the name of the people to take the helm of Government.

Mr. Roufos has resigned, and a deputation from the Assembly has been sent to the conflicting parties to tell them that the Ministry has resigned, and requesting the suspension of hostilities, at least for a while, to give time to the Assembly to take such steps as it may think fit for the conciliation of parties.

Prince Napoleon and Princess Clotilde arrived here yesterday evening, and have already visited the Acropolis.

Since writing the above I hear that M. Diomedes Kyriakou, President of the Assembly, has been invested by that body with the executive power, the Ministry having gone out. M. Diomedes has already issued a proclamation, posted in different parts of the town, informing the public of the functions he has been called upon to perform, recommending at the same time order and tranquillity. A deputation has also been sent by him to the heads of the different corps, inviting them to lay down their arms and re-establish peace.

Leotzakos, who had been sent on board ship at the Piræus, has since come up, and the two Ministers who had been captured by his corps have been exchanged and himself restored to the command of his battalion.

Coroneos and Grivas are both shut up in the palace.

M. Messinezi, the Representative of Vomitza, and member of the first deputation sent to pacify the belligerent parties, in company with M. Moraitini and M. Cossonaki, has been severely wounded, and has been taken into the French school (M. Daveluy's house).

All the shops are still shut, and the town presents a mournful aspect, as very few people are seen about. The public offices are all shut and the military posts have been abandoned.

No. 22.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received July 12.)

My Lord,

Athens, July 4, 1863.

MY two telegrams of the 1st and 3rd instant respectively, and my despatch of the 3rd of July, will have given your Lordship an outline of the events which had occurred at Athens up to 4 o'clock of the evening of yesterday.

I will now endeavour to state in detail what has occurred since bringing to a close my despatch of the 3rd instant.

After Colonel Coroneos had evacuated the palace with his troops, which circumstance was preceded, as your Lordship will recollect, by the dissolution by the

Assembly of the Cabinet of M. Rouffos, and the transfer of the executive power to the hands of M. Kyriakou, the President of the Assembly,—an act, however, not strictly speaking legal, as there were not sufficient members present to ratify it,—hostilities entirely ceased during the night of Wednesday the 1st of July, and every one tried to hope that on the following day a meeting of the Assembly would lead to the nomination of a new Ministry, and bring about a reconciliation of parties.

I regret to say those who were thus sanguine were doomed to disappointment.

It is alleged by Colonel Coroneos that after he left the palace with his troops, and marched them to the barracks which they were to occupy on the west side of the town, Leotzakos, contrary to agreement, occupied the palace with his own soldiers.

Whether this was or not a breach of the conditions on which Colonel Coroneos was induced to evacuate the palace, I am unable at present to say with any certainty; but the position he held had become untenable, being at the mercy of the six pieces of artillery in the stable-yard of the palace.

It appears that he retired from the palace with two field-pieces, and during the night he obtained the use of more artillery from the "Hellas" frigate, lying in the Piræus harbour.

With this help he took possession on the following morning of all the western approaches to Athens, and Grivas occupied the Acropolis with some guns, so that in a military point of view Coroneos had the advantage of his adversaries.

I passed by the palace at 6 in the morning on my way to bathe in Phalerum Bay, and both in going and returning everything was quiet; but at about 11 o'clock a picket of cavalry attending Colonel Coroneos across the public square were fired on by the gendarmerie on duty at the National Bank. At this time Coroneos had advanced his troops to take possession of the Naval School and other houses still nearer to the Hôtel d'Angleterre and the Bank which adjoins it, and his field-pieces were also brought out on the square. An attack on the Bank was then commenced, and firing with cannon and musketry continued more or less during the rest of the day. The gendarmes appear to have defended the place gallantly, and remained in possession of the Bank during the whole of that time.

In order to dislodge their enemies from the Naval School and the Foreign Office near it, a battery of artillery was taken up the hill of Lycabettus, which is in view from the windows of my residence, and I had an opportunity of seeing some shell fired over Her Majesty's Legation, directed at the Naval School to the rear of it.

I believe that this had the effect of driving Coroneos' troops from that position, although the practice endangered the lives of those in the town who were not taking part in the affray.

At that time M. Bourée and several of my colleagues were at my house, but we did not then think it practicable to place ourselves in communication with the leaders of the two adverse parties; but after M. Bourée's departure later in the day the firing ceased, and I then addressed a private note to M. Bourée (a copy of which I inclose) suggesting the propriety of an intervention on the part of the Ministers of the three Powers, with the view of proposing an armistice and whatever measures could be thought of for stopping this deplorable and fratricidal struggle.

I then walked to the residence of my Russian colleague, accompanied by Mr. Rumbold, and M. de Geofroy the French Secretary of Legation, and having, after some discussion, obtained Count Bloudoff's assent, we all repaired in my carriage to M. Bourée's residence at Patissia.

We then determined to send a joint note to M. Papadiamantopoulos and his officers in command of the troops opposed to Colonel Coroneos, and to the headquarters of Colonel Coroneos, demanding an armistice between the belligerents for forty-eight hours, during which time the Assembly might meet to deliberate on the best mode of putting an end to the conflict.

This note, of which I inclose a copy, was then carried by our respective Secretaries, in my carriage, late at night, and not without some personal risk, to the head-quarters of the two belligerents. A truce of a few hours only had already been agreed upon; but this left no time for any practical arrangement, and only gave time to either party to strengthen their military position.

With some difficulty, the only opposition coming from Colonel Coroneos, the

armistice we proposed was accepted. The three gentlemen from our Legations also called on the President of the Assembly, who promised that there should be no delay in summoning the Assembly the next day for deliberation.

The night passed off in tranquillity.

Yesterday we again assembled at my residence, and M. Bourée drew up a note for our joint signature, a copy of which I inclose, and of which I hope your Lordship will approve, addressed to the President of the Assembly to be read to that Body.

I may state here that the gendarmes who defended the Bank were withdrawn and replaced by National Guards who could not be depended upon.

At the solicitation of the Director of the Bank, and with the approval of the President of the Assembly, and in concert with the Naval Commanders of the three Protecting Powers, we agreed to occupy that building, and accordingly ninety men from the ships were immediately brought up from the Piræus and are placed in the Bank for its protection.

It was thought advisable to mention this to the Chiefs of the belligerent parties.

The measure met with the approbation of M. Papadiamantopoulos, but Colonel Coroneos objected to it, saying that it would be better to escort the money down to the Piræus. As it would require forty carts and several days to effect this operation, it could not be thought of; but we replied to Colonel Coroneos by a joint note, of which I inclose a copy, saying that we held him responsible for any injury done to the soldiers at the Bank.

The Assembly met yesterday at the Naval School, as the "Mountain" refused to go to the usual place of meeting, allèging its great vicinity to the cannon of the artillery corps in the stable-yard of the Palace. Nevertheless, the party called the "Plain," adherents of M. Boulgaris, met at first in that building; but as it was not possible to obtain a sufficient number of members for voting any measure, they finally joined the others, and sat in the Naval School.

Last night, under the pressure of the Coroneos party in the Assembly, and surrounded by the bayonets of the National Guard, the greater part of whom still consider him as their chief, after the reading of our joint note, which created a sensation, and has been generally approved of by all parties, a Commission of ten members was elected out of the Assembly to choose a new Ministry, taken chiefly from the adherents of Colonel Coroneos, but admitting also several of the other side.

The Assembly also came to the determination of asking for the resignation of their commands by Colonel Coroneos, Papadiamantopoulos, and Leotzakos, and that all the troops should retire from Athens, leaving the city in the hands of the National Guard. It remains to be seen whether all or any of these terms will be carried into effect.

From what I have seen myself, and from the reports which have been brought to me, the attitude of the troops on either side is anything but satisfactory, and it has been suggested to me that it would be advisable to endeavour to have the armistice prolonged.

I have the honour to inclose a declaration made by the Representatives of the three Powers with regard to the occupation of the Bank, which was forwarded to the President of the Assembly, and also a letter written to me by M. Papadiamantopoulos, forwarding a communication addressed by him to the President of the Assembly concerning the late events.

Inclosure 1 in No. 22.

Collective Note of the Representatives of Great Britain, France, and Russia to the Chiefs of the Belligerents.

Athènes, le 2 Juillet, 1863.

EN présence d'une guerre civile qui a déjà fait couler trop de sang dans les rues de cette capitale, d'une guerre dont aucun intérêt de la patrie Hellénique n'est, même en apparence, le prétexte ou la justification. les Soussignés, Ministres de France, de Grande Bretagne, et de Russie, touchés des maux dont a déjà cruellement souffert et dont pourrait souffrir longtemps encore une population inoffensive, et désireux d'arrêter l'effusion du sang, chargent les Premiers Secrétaires de leurs Légations respectives, MM. de Geofroy, Rumbold, et Kartchewski, de se présenter

devant les Chefs des belligérants, et de les inviter au nom des Puissances Protectrices à une suspension d'hostilités de quarante-huit heures, pendant lesquelles l'Assemblée Nationale évoquera tous les pouvoirs et prendra les mesures nécessaires pour le rétablissement de l'ordre public.

Les Soussignés ont la légitime espérance que cette démarche sera prise en sérieuse considération ; ils ne veulent pas même prévoir qu'il en puisse être autrement, car les Chefs des deux parties les obligeraient par un refus à se retirer à bord de leurs bâtiments respectifs, à y appeler leur nationaux, et à abandonner ce pays à son malheureux sort et à la guerre impie qui l'ensanglante depuis deux jours et deux nuits.

(Signé)

BOUREE.
P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.
BLOUDOFF.

(Translation.)

IN the presence of a civil war which has already caused the shedding of too much blood in the streets of this capital, a war of which no interest of the Hellenic nation is, even in appearance, the pretext or the justification, the Undersigned, the Ministers of France, Great Britain, and Russia, touched by the evils which an inoffensive population has already suffered and may long continue to suffer, and anxious to stop the effusion of blood, charge the First Secretaries of their respective Legations, Messrs. de Geoffroy, Rumbold, and Kartchewski, to present themselves before the belligerent Chiefs, and to invite them, in the name of the protecting Powers, to a suspension of hostilities for forty-eight hours, during which the National Assembly will evoke all its powers, and take the necessary measures for the re-establishment of public order.

The Undersigned have the legitimate expectation that this step will be taken into serious consideration. They will not even foresee that it can be otherwise, for the Chiefs of the two parties would oblige them, by a refusal, to retire on board their respective vessels, to take with them the subjects of their several Governments, and to abandon this country to its unhappy fate, and to the impious war which has bathed its streets in blood for two days and two nights.

(Signed)

BOUREE.
P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.
BLOUDOFF.

Inclosure 2 in No. 22.

Collective Note of the Representatives of Great Britain, France, and Russia, to the President of the National Assembly.

*Athènes, le 21 Juin
3 Juillet, 1863.*

LES Soussignés, Ministres de France, de Grande Bretagne, et de Russie, ne pouvaient rester spectateurs indifférents de la guerre civile qui vient d'ensanglanter cette capitale. Il fallait avant tout arrêter l'effusion du sang et ils s'applaudissent d'avoir réussi à établir une suspension d'armes pendant laquelle l'Assemblée, s'inspirant des devoirs que les circonstances imposent à son patriotisme, pourra aviser aux mesures requises par l'intérêt public. Les Soussignés, en agissant pour la suspension des hostilités auprès des chefs des deux partis belligérants, n'ont rempli qu'un premier devoir. Il leur reste celui de faire entendre à l'Assemblée Nationale un langage dont leur vive sympathie pour la Grèce ne doit pas atténuer la juste sévérité, car ils n'hésitent pas à affirmer que dans leur opinion l'horreur de la lutte patricide que leurs efforts viennent d'arrêter n'a pas même son excuse dans ces sentiments patriotiques mal compris qui trop souvent ont armé les uns contre les autres les membres d'une même nation.

Il n'y a ici, les Soussignés déclarent hautement que telle est leur conviction unanime, il n'y a ici que des ambitions coupables dont rien dissimule la profonde misère et qui se disputent un pouvoir éphémère, au risque de jeter la nation tout entière dans un abîme où peuvent avorter ses destinées.

Dans plusieurs circonstances de la Guerre de l'Indépendance, les Assemblées Nationales ont conjuré de grands périls par de grandes résolutions, par des sacrifices d'orgueil plus méritoires que celui de la vie elle-même. Que les membres de l'Assemblée actuelle s'inspirent de ces souvenirs et de ces exemples de leurs

pères, qui plus d'une fois ont dû puiser dans l'extrême danger que leurs passions avaient créé la force de la conjurer et le courage de rentrer résolument dans ces régions calmes et sereines où le patriotisme règne seul et inspire l'abnégation qui sauve les Etats. Pendant ces époques d'une guerre glorieuse auxquelles les Soussignés font allusion il s'agissait pour la Grèce de mourir ou de prendre place entre les nations indépendantes.

La crise qu'elle traverse aujourd'hui est aussi grave pour elle. Une dynastie nouvelle qu'entoure d'avance la bienveillance des Puissances Protectrices peut encore se refuser à ses vœux ; les Iles Ioniennes ne sont pas encore annexées au territoire du Royaume fondé en 1832 ; et plus que tout cela peut-être la Grèce a l'estime de l'Europe à se concilier ou à s'aliéner : tels sont les intérêts vitaux auxquels les Ministres des Puissances Protectrices conseillent de sacrifier vos dissensions, vos haines, vos ambitions.

Le Président de l'Assemblée a reçu communication de la note remise par les Soussignés aux premiers Secrétaires de leurs Légations respectives et qui devaient leur servir de lettre de créance auprès des Chefs des partis belligérants ; cette note se termine par un paragraphe dont les Soussignés croient devoir rappeler la teneur, car si dans les lignes qui précèdent ils se sont efforcés de rappeler les Grecs au sentiment de leurs devoirs envers eux-mêmes, envers leurs pays, envers les Puissances Protectrices, envers le Roi qu'ils ont acclamé, et envers l'opinion de l'Europe entière, les Soussignés ne sauraient oublier qu'ils ont eux aussi un impérieux devoir personnel à remplir, celui de soustraire leurs nationaux aux dangers d'une guerre odieuse qui peut finir par le pillage de la capitale.

Les Soussignés ne sauraient oublier non plus que le soin de leur dignité leur défend de consacrer en quelque sorte par leur présence les horreurs d'une guerre qui n'a pas de cause avouable.

Les Soussignés renouvellent donc à M. le Président de l'Assemblée Nationale la déclaration que, si après les quarante-huit heures de suspension d'armes les hostilités recommencent, ils se retireront à bord de leurs bâtiments respectifs, y appelleront leurs nationaux, et rompront toute relation avec un pays où il est fait un si déplorable emploi du courage et d'où le véritable patriotisme semblerait à jamais exilé.

Les Soussignés, &c.

(Signé)

BOUREE.

P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

BLOUDOFF.

(Translation.)

THE Undersigned, the Ministers of France, Great Britain, and Russia, could not remain indifferent spectators of the civil war which has recently deluged this capital with blood. It was above all necessary to arrest the effusion of blood, and they take credit to themselves for having succeeded in establishing a suspension of arms, during which the Assembly, inspired by the duties which circumstances impose upon its patriotism, can deliberate upon the measures required for the public interest.

The Undersigned, in negotiating a suspension of hostilities with the Chiefs of the two belligerent parties, have only fulfilled a first duty. It remains for them to address the National Assembly in terms of which the just severity must not be attenuated by their strong sympathy for Greece, for they do not hesitate to affirm that in their opinion the horror of the patricidal struggle which their efforts have just arrested has not even its excuse in those mistaken patriotic sentiments which have too often armed against each other the members of the same nation.

There are here—the Undersigned plainly declare that such is their unanimous conviction—there are here only culpable ambitions, of which nothing can dissimulate the profound misery, and which dispute for themselves an ephemeral power, at the risk of plunging the entire nation into an abyss which may be the ruin of its destiny.

In several circumstances of the war of independence National Assemblies have averted great perils by great resolutions, by sacrifices of pride more meritorious than that of life itself. Let the members of the present Assembly be inspired by the recollections and examples of their fathers, who more than once have had to seek in the extreme danger which their passions had created the strength to avert it, and the courage to return resolutely to those calm and serene regions where patriotism reigns alone and inspires that abnegation by which States are saved. During those

epochs of a glorious war alluded to by the Undersigned, it was a question whether Greece should perish or should take a place among independent nations.

The crisis through which she is now passing is equally important to her. A new Dynasty, supported already by the favour of the Protecting Powers, may still be refused to their prayers. The Ionian Islands are still not annexed to the territory of the Kingdom founded in 1832, and, moreover, Greece has still, perhaps, to conciliate or alienate the esteem of Europe. Such are the vital interests to which the Ministers of the Protecting Powers advise you to sacrifice your dissensions, your hatreds, and your ambitions.

The President of the Assembly has received communication of the note sent by the Undersigned to the first Secretaries of their respective Legations, and which was to serve them as credentials to the Chiefs of the belligerent parties; this note ends by a paragraph of which the Undersigned will repeat the tenor, for if, in the lines which precede it, they were obliged to recall the Greeks to a feeling of what they owed each other, to their country, to the Protecting Powers, to the King whom they have chosen by acclamation, and to European opinion, the Undersigned cannot forget that they have an imperative duty to fulfil, that, namely, of preserving the subjects of their respective countries from the dangers of an odious war which may end in the pillage of the capital.

The Undersigned can also not forget that a regard for their own dignity forbids them from encouraging in any way by their presence the horrors of a civil war which has no avowable cause.

The Undersigned renew, therefore, to the President of the National Assembly the declaration that if, after the forty-eight hours of a suspension of arms, the hostilities recommence, they will retire on board their respective ships, will invite to them their several subjects, and will break off all relations with a country where courage is put to so deplorable a use, and from which true patriotism seems to be for ever exiled.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

BOUREE.

P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.
BLODOFF.

Inclosure 3 in No. 22.

Declaration of the Representatives of Great Britain, France, and Russia, addressed to Colonel Coroneos.

Athènes, le 3 Juillet, 1863, 5½ heures du soir.

EN réponse aux observations qui ont été faites à MM. les Secrétaires des trois Légations, les Soussignés, Ministres de France, de Grande Bretagne, et de Russie ont l'honneur de faire savoir à M. le Colonel Coroneos et aux officiers qui composent son Etat-Major ou exercent des commandements sous ses ordres, que les Légations des Puissances Protectrices et les Commandants supérieurs des forces navales ne considéreraient pas comme fortuits les accidents, quel qu'ils soient, dont auraient à souffrir les soldats de la garnison Anglo-Franco-Russe proposés à la garde de la Banque en vertu d'une entente préalable concertée entre les dites Légations et le Président de l'Assemblée Nationale. Les Soussignés déclarent de plus que les officiers ci-dessus désignés seraient considérés comme personnellement responsables de tout acte irrespectueux commis envers les pavillons des Puissances Protectrices, ainsi que de tout acte agressif qui serait commis contre les gardiens de la Banque.

(Signé)

P. BOUREE.

P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.
BLODOFF.

(Translation.)

Athens, July 3, 1863, 5.30 P.M.

IN reply to the observations which have been made to the Secretaries of the the three Legations, the Undersigned, Ministers of France, of Great Britain, and of Russia, have the honour to communicate to Colonel Coroneos, and to the officers comprising his staff, or holding commands under him, that the Legations of the Protecting Powers and the Commodores of the naval forces will not consider any

accidents as merely fortuitous which may befall the English, French, and Russian guard with which it is proposed to occupy the Bank in accordance with the understanding arrived at between the said Legations and the President of the National Assembly. The Undersigned further declare that the above-mentioned officers will be considered personally responsible for all acts of disrespect committed against the flags of the Protecting Powers, as well as for any aggressive act against the guard of the Bank.

(Signed)

BOUREE.
P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.
BLODOFF.

Inclosure 4 in No. 22.

Declaration of the Representatives of Great Britain, France, and Russia, relative to the Occupation of the National Bank.

LES Soussignés, Ministres de France, de Grande Bretagne, et de Russie, considérant que la Banque Hellénique est dépositaire non seulement de fonds appartenant à des Grecs, mais aussi de sommes considérables qui sont la propriété des citoyens de toutes les nations Européennes ; reconnaissant de plus qu'il est du plus grand intérêt pour la Grèce de sauvegarder un établissement financier dont l'existence se rattache si directement à tous les intérêts nationaux ; ont résolu, sur la demande de M. le Gouverneur de la Banque et avec l'adhésion de M. le Président de l'Assemblée Nationale, qu'un corps de troupes composé par parties égales de détachements empruntés aux bâtimens des Puissances amies et protectrices de la Grèce, serait placé dans l'hôtel de la banque pour le protéger contre tous les dangers qu'il pourrait courir de quelque côté que ce soit.

Les Soussignés, Ministres de France, de Grande Bretagne, et de Russie, déclarent que la mesure qu'ils ont résolue ne saurait être considérée comme un acte d'intervention en faveur de l'un ou de l'autre des partis en présence.

Ils déclarent de plus que les contingents seront retirés aussitôt que l'ordre public aura été rétabli.

Faite à Athènes, le 3 Juillet, 1863.

(Signé)

BOUREE.
P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.
BLODOFF.

(Translation.)

THE Undersigned, Ministers of France, Great Britain, and Russia, considering that in the Hellenic Bank are deposited not only funds the property of Greeks, but also considerable sums of money belonging to the citizens of all European nations ; considering also that it is of the greatest importance for Greece to maintain the safety of an establishment of which the national existence is so bound up with all the interests of the nation, have resolved, upon the requisition of the Governor of the Bank, and with the concurrence of the President of the National Assembly, that a body of troops, composed of equal numbers of detachments taken from the ships of the Powers friendly to and protecting Greece, shall be placed in the Bank to protect it from all the dangers which it may incur from any quarter whatever.

The Undersigned, Ministers of France, Great Britain, and Russia, declare that the measure which they have resolved to adopt is not to be considered as an act of intervention in favour of either one or the other of the opposing parties.

They further declare that the contingents will be withdrawn as soon as public order shall be restored.

Done at Athens, July 3, 1863.

(Signed)

BOUREE.
P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.
BLODOFF.

Inclosure 5 in No. 22.

M. Papadiamantopoulos to Mr. Scarlett.

M. le Ministre,

Athènes, ce ^{21 Juin}_{3 Juillet}, 1863.

A LA suite de l'intervention par laquelle MM. les Ministres des trois grandes Puissances ont bien voulu nous demander hier un armistice de quarante-huit heures, je crois utile, M. le Ministre, de vous envoyer ci-incluse la traduction d'une adresse que nous avons envoyée de concert avec M. le Commandant de la Gendarmerie à M. le Président de l'Assemblée Nationale.

Veuillez, &c.

Le Commandant Militaire d'Athènes et de Pyrée,
(Signé) D. PAPADIAMANTOPOULOS.

(Translation.)

M. Ministre,

Athens, June 21 ²¹_{3 July}, 1863.

IN consequence of the intervention through which the Ministers of the three Great Powers were pleased to request of us yesterday an armistice of forty-eight hours, I deem it to be of use, M. le Ministre, to forward to you, herewith inclosed, the translation of a paper which we have addressed, in concert with the Commandant of the Police, to the President of the National Assembly.

Accept, &c.

The Military Commandant of Athens and of Piræus,
(Signed) D. PAPADIAMANTOPOULOS.

Inclosure 6 in No. 22.

MM. Michos and Papadiamantopoulos to the President of the National Assembly.

M. le Président,

Athènes, ce ^{21 Juin}_{3 Juillet}, 1863.

OBEISSANT à l'appel de l'Assemblée Nationale la matinée du ^{19 Juin}_{1 Juillet} aussitôt que ses décisions nous ont été transmises, nous nous sommes retirés dans nos casernes, et nous avons permis à la force ennemie qui occupait le Palais de se retirer.

Le même jour nous avons appris que ceux qui avaient abandonné le Palais, au lieu de se retirer à leurs casernes, se sont réunis aux troupes qui avaient refusé de respecter vos ordres et se sont établis avec eux à la Place Louis; nous avons été également informés qu'ils s'occupaient à recruter, qu'ils amenaient du Pyrée des canons, et qu'ils se préparaient à recommencer les hostilités.

Confians au poids de vos résolutions, à la parole militaire de nos adversaires, et convaincus qu'ils ne voudraient jamais compromettre les plus chers intérêts de la patrie en recommençant les hostilités, nous nous sommes maintenus à la plus stricte réserve.

Le lendemain à 10 heures du matin on nous annonce que le Colonel Coroneos vient d'attaquer la Banque Nationale. et nous recevons en même temps votre ordre écrit par lequel nous sommes invités à défendre cet établissement, qui renferme des intérêts précieux, Grecs et étrangers, et dont le pillage laisserait une tâche sur la nation. Nous nous y sommes rendus à l'instant avec deux pièces de canons, et en défendant cet établissement nous avons perdu quelques hommes. Une fois cet établissement assuré nous nous sommes retirés encore à nos places.

Vers 5 heures du soir, étant attaqués du côté de l'Eglise Anglicaine par des soldats qui occupaient l'Acropole, et qui étaient descendus de cette place en se dirigeant vers notre caserne, nous avons été obligé de placer deux canons au Palais et de les repousser.

Le soir nous avons eu l'honneur de vous voir à la caserne de l'artillerie, où comme vous savez nous avons acceptés la suspension des hostilités que vous nous avez proposée. Après votre départ, MM. les Secrétaires des Légations d'Angleterre, de France, et de Russie, sont venus nous proposer une trêve de quarante-huit heures, que nous avons également acceptée, afin que l'Assemblée Nationale puisse se réunir et prendre les mesures nécessaires pour le rétablissement d'ordre.

Nous attendons la décision de l'Assemblée Nationale, étant prêts à nous y conformer strictement.

Nous croyons cependant, M. le Président, nécessaire de vous rappeler à combien de sacrifices l'exécution de vos ordres nous a soumis.

Vos ordres nous imposaient de nous procurer des vivres par votre seul intermédiaire, qui représentiez la suprême autorité de l'Etat, tandis qu'en même temps ils nous prescrivait la plus stricte inactivité militaire. C'est à cause de cela que nous avons été privés des vivres, et nous avons négligé de prendre les positions nécessaires à notre défense tandis que les adversaires s'emparaient des vivres qui se trouvaient en ville, et exécutaient des mouvements stratégiques.

On vient de nous annoncer, M. le Président, que quelques Députés, pour justifier leur absence des réunions de l'Assemblée, prétendent que la proximité de notre caserne leur impose cette réserve. Nous protestons, M. le Président, contre cette offence. L'artillerie, la gendarmerie, le 6ème bataillon, et la police ont maintenu l'ordre pendant toutes les péripéties politiques de notre partie depuis le mois d'Octobre dernier jusqu'aujourd'hui. Ces corps n'ont commis le moindre crime et n'ont nullement pris part aux actes qui ont troublé pendant ce temps l'ordre public.

L'Assemblée Nationale fut toujours notre symbole. Si notre conduite ne suffit pas pour prouver ce que nous venons d'avancer, nous appelons à votre témoignage, M. le Président, afin que vous déclariez si nous n'avons pas été toujours soumis à vos ordres, et si nous ne nous sommes pas servis pour leur accomplissement de toutes les forces dont nous disposions en présence d'un ennemi en insurrection.

Cependant afin que cet habile prétexte soit écarté, veuillez, M. le Président, décider ce que vous croyez utile quant au lieu des réunions de l'Assemblée, et soyez convaincu que cette fois encore nous respecterons et nous exécuterons avec empressement vos décisions.

Le Commandant-en-chef de Gendarmerie,
(Signé) ARTEMIS MICHOS.
Le Commandant Militaire d'Athènes et du Pyrée,
D. PAPADIAMANTOPOULOS.

(Translation.)

M. le Président,

Athens, June 21, 1863.

IN obedience to the appeal of the National Assembly on the morning of ^{June 19} ~~July 3~~, immediately upon their decisions having been transmitted to us, we retired into our barracks, and we permitted the opposed force which was occupying the Palace to withdraw.

On the same day we learnt that those who had abandoned the Palace, instead of retiring to their barracks, united themselves to the troops which had refused to respect your orders, and established themselves with them in the Place Louis. We have likewise been informed that they occupied themselves in recruiting; that they were bringing up cannon from the Piræus; and that they were preparing to recommence hostilities.

Confiding in the gravity of your resolutions, in the soldier's word of our adversaries, and convinced that they would never seek to compromise the dearest interests of our country by recommencing hostilities, we maintained the strictest reserve.

The next day at 10 o'clock in the morning, it was announced to us that Colonel Coroneos had begun an attack upon the National Bank, and at the same time we received your written order by which we were summoned to defend that establishment, which is the keeper of precious interests, Greek and foreign, and the pillage of which would cast a stain upon the nation. We proceeded thither upon the instant, with two pieces of cannon, and in the defence of that establishment we lost some men. As soon as the safety of that establishment was assured, we again retired to our quarters.

Towards 5 o'clock in the evening, being attacked from the direction of the Anglican Church by the soldiers who had occupied the Acropolis, and who had descended from that post taking the direction of our barracks, we have been under the necessity of placing two cannons at the palace and of driving them back.

In the evening we had the honour of meeting you at the Artillery barracks, where, as you know, we accepted the suspension of hostilities which you proposed to us. After your departure the Secretaries of the Legations of England, of France, and of Russia, came to propose to us a truce of forty-eight hours, which we likewise accepted, in order that the National Assembly might meet and take the necessary steps for the restoration of order.

We await the decision of the National Assembly, being ready to conform strictly to it.

We nevertheless think it necessary, Mr. President, to recall to your attention the amount of the sacrifices to which the execution of your orders has subjected us.

Your orders required us to procure provisions through your co-operation only, you being the representative of the supreme authority of the State, whilst at the same time they prescribed for us the strictest inactivity in military matters. It was owing to this that we have been in want of provisions, and we have omitted to take up the positions necessary for our defence, whilst our adversaries seized upon the provisions which they found in the town, and executed strategic movements.

It has just been announced to us, Mr. President, that certain Deputies, to justify their absence from the meetings of the Assembly, pretend that the proximity of our barracks imposes upon them this caution. We protest, Mr. President, against this charge against us. The Artillery, the gendarmes, the 6th battalion, and the police, have maintained order during all the political changes of fortune of our party, from the month of October last up to this day. Those bodies have not committed the smallest crime, and have in no degree participated in the acts which at this time have disturbed public order.

The National Assembly was always our symbol. If our conduct does not suffice to prove what we have now asserted, we appeal to your testimony, Mr. President, that you should declare whether we have not always submitted to your orders, and if we have not used for their fulfilment the whole of the force at our disposal in presence of an enemy in insurrection.

However, with the view of removing this ingenious pretext, we beg you, Mr. President, to decide as you may think convenient upon the place for the meetings of the Assembly, and be convinced that on this occasion too we shall respect and shall execute with eagerness your decisions.

The Chief Commandant of the Force of Gendarmes,
(Signed) ARTEMIS MICHOS.

The Military Commandant of Athens and the Piræus,
D. PAPADIAMANTOPOULOS.

No. 23.

Mr. Scarlett to Earl Russell.—(Received July 12.)

My Lord,

Athens, July 4, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a note addressed to me by M. Calligas, the Minister for Foreign Affairs elected last night by the National Assembly, informing me of his appointment, and forwarding a Decree of the Assembly, which I also inclose, with regard to the dispositions to be made for sending the troops out of Athens, and confiding the town to the protection of the National Guard.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 23.

M. Calligas to Mr. Scarlett.

M. le Ministre,

*Athènes, le 22 Juin
4 Juillet, 1863.*

J'AI l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance que l'Assemblée Nationale vient de construire, dans sa séance d'hier, un nouveau Gouvernement composé de—

M. Benizelo Roufos, comme Président du Conseil des Ministres, sans portefeuille;

M. Athanase G. Petimezas, comme Ministre de l'Intérieur;

M. E. Kéhayas, comme Ministre des Finances;

M. Pierre Mavromichalis, comme Ministre de la Justice;

M. B. Nicolopoulos, comme Ministre des Cultes et de l'Instruction Publique;

Colonel Klimakas, comme Ministre de la Guerre;

M. Bouboulis, comme Ministre de la Marine;

Et du Soussigné, comme Ministre des Affaires Etrangères.

Dans cette même séance l'Assemblée Nationale a unanimement voté le Décret ci-joint en traduction Française, par lequel tous les corps des troupes régulières constituant jusqu'à présent la garnison d'Athènes seront très incessamment éloignés de la capitale, le maintien de l'ordre public étant uniquement confié à la Garde Nationale.

Aussitôt après sa constitution le nouveau Ministère s'est occupé de la mise en application des dispositions décrétées hier par l'Assemblée Nationale, et il ne négligera rien pour que l'ordre public si douloureusement troublé pendant ces derniers jours soit pleinement rétabli. Il a lieu d'espérer que ses efforts seront bientôt couronnés d'un plein succès par le concours de l'Assemblée Nationale, par le bon sens du peuple de la capitale, et surtout par l'appui des trois grandes Puissances bienfaitrices de la Grèce, sur lesquelles la nation Hellénique n'a jamais cessé de compter avec confiance.

Prenant en considération la noble sollicitude que vous avez témoignée pour notre pays dans ces tristes conjonctures, je ne doute point, en ce qui vous concerne personnellement, que vous voudrez bien seconder le Gouvernement légal que l'Assemblée Nationale vient de constituer, dans l'accomplissement de la tâche ardue qui lui est confiée.

Quant à moi, M. le Ministre, appelé dans des circonstances aussi difficiles à entretenir avec vous des relations officielles, je me croie si heureux de pouvoir contribuer aussi à ce que les liens d'amitié et de bonne intelligence si heureusement existant aujourd'hui entre la Grèce et la Grande Bretagne, soient de plus en plus resserrés, et dans l'espoir que vous voudrez bien m'accorder dans ce but votre confiance, je saisis, &c.

(Signed) P. CALLIGAS.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre,

*Athens, June 22,
July 4, 1863.*

I HAVE the honour to bring to your knowledge that the National Assembly has called together, in its sitting of yesterday, a new Government composed of—

M. Benizelo Roufos, President of the Council of Ministers, without portfolio ;

M. Anathasius G. Petimezas, Minister of the Interior ;

M. E. Kéhayas, Minister of Finance ;

M. Peter Mavromichalis, Minister of Justice ;

M. B. Nicolopoulos, Minister of Worship and Public Instruction ;

Colonel Klimakas, Minister of War ;

M. Bouboulis, Minister of Marine ;

And the Undersigned, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

In that same sitting the National Assembly voted unanimously the Decree, a French translation of which is hereto appended, by which all the divisions of regular troops constituting hitherto the garrison of Athens will be constantly removed from the capital, the maintenance of public order being entirely confided to the National Guard.

Immediately after being constituted, the new Ministry occupied itself with the application of the measures decreed yesterday by the National Assembly, and they will neglect no steps in order that public order, so grievously troubled during these last days, may be fully restored. They have grounds for hoping that their efforts will be speedily crowned with full success through the assistance of the National Assembly, the good disposition of the inhabitants of the capital, and especially through the support of the three Great Powers, the benefactors of Greece, upon whom the Hellenic nation has never ceased to count with confidence.

Considering the noble sollicitude which you have shown for our country in these sad conjunctures, I doubt not that, in a matter which concerns you personally, you will be willing to support the lawful Government which the National Assembly has now constituted, in the accomplishment of the arduous task which has been confided to them.

As for me, M. le Ministre, summoned in circumstances so difficult to enter into official relations with you, I should consider myself happy were I also able to contribute to the fastening tighter and tighter the bonds of friendship and of good understanding which so happily exist at this time between Greece and Great Britain, and in the hope that you will please to bestow upon me your confidence with this object, I take, &c.

(Signed) P. CALLIGAS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 23.

Decree.

(Traduction.)

LA seconde Assemblée Nationale des Grecs convoquée à Athènes ;

Considérant que l'état actuel des différentes provinces du Royaume rend nécessaire le concours de la force armée pour le raffermissement de l'ordre et la perception régulière des impôts ;

Décrète :

1. Les divers corps de l'armée stationnées jusqu'à présent à Athènes doivent se rendre immédiatement dans les provinces qui leur seront indiquées par le Gouvernement.

2. La sécurité de la capitale est confiée au patriotisme de la Garde Nationale.

3. Les postes du Commandant militaire d'Athènes et du Commandant de la gendarmerie devenant, par les dispositions qui précèdent, inutiles, sont abolis.

4. La direction de la Préfecture de Police d'Athènes et du Pirée est dévolu au Ministère de l'Intérieur.

5. Les attributions du Commandant de la Garde Nationale d'Athènes et du Pirée seront provisoirement remplies par les Maires respectifs.

Ce Décret sera publié dans le journal officiel du Gouvernement.

(Translation.)

THE second National Assembly of the Greeks convoked at Athens ;

Considering that the present state of the different provinces of the kingdom renders necessary the support of armed force for the securing of order and the regular collection of the taxes ;

Decrees :

1. The various portions of the army stationed up to this time at Athens must immediately repair to the provinces which shall be designated by the Government.

2. The security of the capital is confided to the patriotism of the National Guard.

3. The posts of Military Commandant of Athens and of Commandant of the force of Gendarmes, being rendered of no use by the above dispositions, are abolished.

4. The direction of the Police Office of Athens and of the Piræus has devolved upon the Minister of the Interior.

5. The functions of Commandant of the National Guard of Athens and of the Piræus shall be provisionally performed by the respective Mayors.

This Decree shall be published in the official journal of the Government.

No. 24.

Earl Russell to Mr. Scarlett.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 16, 1863.

THE various events recorded in your telegrams of the 3rd and 5th instant have been learnt with much pain by Her Majesty's Government, who approve the protection afforded to the Bank of Greece by the landing of troops from the combined British, French, and Russian ships of war. With regard to any further steps, however, Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that Marines only should be employed for the purpose of protection. Your French and Russian colleagues, in case of any urgent necessity arising which requires a force of Marines to be landed, should of course be consulted by you before any measures are taken in the matter. But if you obtain their assent you are at liberty to apply to the Admiral, explaining to him the pressing emergency which induces you to make the request.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

RUSSELL.

Earl Russell to Mr. Scarlett.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 16, 1863.

HER Majesty's Government have read with great concern your despatches of the 2nd and 4th instant, giving an account of the deplorable events which have occurred at Athens in the first days of July.

It is difficult to make out who were the aggressors in this conflict, but it has been clearly a conflict for power between the party of Canaris, Grivas, and Coroneos, against the party of Boulgaris and his supporters.

It is also clear that there has been no overt attack on the title of King George. Nor does the authority of the National Assembly appear to be disputed.

Such being the case, it is to be hoped that the wise measures taken by the Representatives of the three Protecting Powers will afford time for the restoration of order.

It is desirable to avoid a military occupation : the ships of the three Protecting Powers can easily afford a sufficient guard for the Bank, the Palace, and any other points which are menaced by the forces of the conflicting parties, or which might be pillaged by a disorderly mob.

You will continue, therefore, to consult your colleagues of France and Russia, and to adopt such measures as the exigencies of the moment may render necessary or expedient.

The authority of the Assembly must be upheld, and every endeavour should be made to prevent a renewal of an armed conflict.

Perhaps, after all, we ought rather to admire the spirit which has prevented any serious breach of the peace from the month of October 1862 till the present time, than wonder at the disorders which have now at last occurred.

The National Guard, if animated by a good spirit and properly disciplined, may be of great use in restraining military excesses.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

GREECE.

Correspondence relating to the Election of Prince
William of Denmark as King of Greece, and to
the State of the Country.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1863.*

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS,

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

[RUSSIA

RELATIVE TO THE

AFFAIRS OF GREECE

PREVIOUS TO THE

CONCLUSION OF THE TREATY OF JULY 6, 1827.

Presented to the House of Lords by Command of Her Majesty.
1863.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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Correspondence with Russia relative to the Affairs of Greece,
previous to the Conclusion of the Treaty of July 6, 1827.

No. 1.

Count Lieven to Mr. Canning.—(Received November . . .)

Mon cher M. de Canning,

Ashburnham House, le 22 Novembre, 1823.

DANS la vue de gagner du temps, et de faire peut-être quelque chose qui pourrait être agréable à votre Excellence, je crois devoir lui communiquer ci-près la copie d'une dépêche (dont je me proposais d'avoir l'honneur de lui soumettre Lundi l'original) qui porte la réponse à une question que vous m'avez adressée à notre dernier entretien.

Veuillez, &c.

(Signé) LIEVEN.

(Translation.)

My dear Mr. Canning,

Ashburnham House, November 22, 1823.

WITH a view of gaining time, and of doing what may perhaps be agreeable to your Excellency, I think I should communicate to you the inclosed copy of a despatch, the original of which I had intended to submit to you on Monday, and which contains the answer to the question you put to me at our last interview.

Pray accept, &c.

(Signed) LIEVEN.

Inclosure in No. 1.

Count Nesselrode to Count Lieven.

M. le Comte,

Odessa, le 21 Octobre 1823.

MA lettre au Vicomte de Strangford, en date de Tchernowitz, le 28 Septembre de l'année courante, lui a annoncé que je me concerterais avec le Cabinet de Vienne sur un travail qui aurait pour but d'indiquer les moyens auxquels les Puissances alliées pourraient avoir recours, afin de rétablir le calme en Grèce à l'aide de leur intervention collective, et d'assurer un bonheur durable à ces contrées.

Pendant mon séjour à Lemberg, je n'ai pas manqué de discuter avec M. le Prince de Metternich les bases de ce travail; toutefois la question offre tant de difficultés, elle exige tant de notions locales, qu'il nous a été impossible pour le moment de réunir dans une mémoire fondée sur des faits et des renseignements positifs, les idées qui se présentent comme les plus propres à hâter la pacification de la Grèce.

Mais il nous a paru que la mesure dont on pourrait avec raison se promettre le plus de succès serait d'ouvrir à St. Pétersbourg entre le Ministère de Russie et les Ambassadeurs ou Ministres de toutes les Cours alliées, des délibérations communes sur cet objet important.

Il y serait examiné avec toute la réflexion qu'il demande; le résultat des Conférences devrait être communiqué aux Plénipotentiaires de ces mêmes Cours à Constantinople, et ceux-ci le regarderaient comme leur instruction définitive.

Dès notre retour, nous nous ferons un devoir de développer les vues de l'Empereur sous ce rapport, et nous signalerons les principes dont l'application nous paraîtra le plus désirable et le plus salulaire.

Le problème qui va nous occuper appelle l'attention de tous les hommes d'Etat, et nous espérons qu'à ce titre le Cabinet de Londres transmettra avec empressement à son Représentant auprès de Sa Majesté Impériale l'autorisation de prendre part à la délibération dont il s'agit.

Votre Excellence voudra bien l'y inviter et le prévenir qu'il nous semblerait d'une utilité majeure qu'à cette occasion la Cour d'Angleterre fit connaître à M. le Chevalier Bagot ses opinions sur l'avenir de la Grèce et sur l'ordre de choses que la Porte devrait lui accorder pour la soustraire au fléau des révolutions et pour la faire jouir de tous les avantages que réclament en sa faveur la religion et l'humanité.

Recevez, &c.
(Signé) NESSELRODE.

(Translation,)

M. le Comte,

Odessa, ^{October 21} November 2, 1823.

MY letter to Lord Strangford dated Tchernowitz, September 28 of the present year, informed him that I would concert with the Cabinet of Vienna as to a plan whose object should be to point out the means which the allied Powers could have recourse to, in order to re-establish tranquillity in Greece by the aid of a collective intervention, and to ensure a durable happiness to that country.

During my stay at Lemberg, I did not fail to discuss with Prince Metternich the basis of this work; nevertheless the question offers so many difficulties, it requires so much local knowledge, that for the present it has been impossible for us to embody in a memorandum (founded on facts and positive information), the ideas which present themselves to us as being the best calculated to hasten the pacification of Greece.

But it appears to us that the measure from which most success might have been expected, would be the inauguration at St. Petersburg, between the Government of Russia and the Ambassadors or Ministers of all the allied Courts, of deliberations in common on this important subject.

The question would thereby be examined with all the attention it demands; the result of the Conferences should be communicated to the Plenipotentiaries of these same Courts at Constantinople, who would look upon it as their definitive instructions.

As soon as we return it will be our duty to develop the views of the Emperor on this head, and we shall point out the principles the application of which appear to be the most desirable and the most expedient.

The problem which is about to occupy our minds calls for the attention of all statesmen, and we hope that on these grounds the Cabinet of London will hasten to transmit to their Representative at the Court of His Imperial Majesty the authority to take part in the deliberations in question.

Your Excellency will therefore invite them so to do, and point out to them that it would appear to us of greatest importance that on such an occasion the Court of England should make known to Sir C. Bagot their opinions as to the future of Greece, and as to what the Porte should accord to her to free her from the scourge of revolutions, and to enable her to enjoy all the advantages which religion and humanity ask for in her favour.

Accept, &c.
(Signed) NESSELRODE.

No. 2.

Sir Henry Wellesley to Mr. George Canning.—(Received April 16.

(Extract.)

Vienna, March 31, 1825.

AT the second Conference the Russian Secretary presented a kind of projet, submitting the course which it would be advisable for the allies to pursue with the belligerent parties. It was urged in the first place that no time should be lost in entering upon the affair, in order if possible to prevent the renewal of hostilities,

the season for which was fast approaching. That the first overture should be made to the Ottoman Government. That they should be invited to join their efforts to those of the allies for the purpose of effecting the pacification of Greece, as a preliminary step to which they should be required to consent to an armistice. That should they, however, refuse either to unite themselves to the allies, or to accept of their intervention for the purpose aforesaid, it should be intimated to them that the four Powers would be under the painful necessity of withdrawing their Missions from Constantinople, and that the Ottoman Government would alone be responsible for the consequences which might ensue were the allies compelled to resort to such a measure.

No. 3.

Mr. Stratford Canning to Mr. George Canning.—(Received May 3.)

(Extract.)

St. Petersburg, April 15, 1825.

THE principal circumstances which Count Nesselrode disclosed to me, in part the night before last, when I went to take leave of him, and in part yesterday, when he called to return my visit, are these, namely:—

That a courier is to set off in two or three days charged with instructions addressed by each of the Representatives of the four allied Powers respectively to his colleague at Constantinople;

That the object of these instructions is to induce the Porte, by amicable overtures, to listen to a proposal of intervention on the part of the allies;

That occasions are to be taken for recommending an armistice as a measure of high expediency, though not to be formally proposed, as it is thought that such proposal would probably be fruitless in the present posture of affairs.

No. 4.

The Duke of Wellington to Mr. Canning.—(Received April 20.)

(Extract.)

*St. Petersburg, April 4,
March 23, 1826.*

I INCLOSE the arrangement respecting the Greeks, with a translation.

You will see that the 3rd Article binds the Emperor not in any case to force an arrangement upon the Porte in favour of the Greeks, beyond that which was proposed by certain leading men in Greece to Mr. Stratford Canning.

Inclosure in No. 4.

Protocol of a Conference between the Duke of Wellington, Count Nesselrode, and Count Lieven.

SA Majesté Britannique ayant été invitée par les Grecs à interposer ses bons offices à fin de les reconcilier avec la Porte Ottomane, ayant conséquemment offert sa médiation à cette Puissance et désirant se concerter à cet égard avec Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies;

D'un autre côté Sa Majesté Impériale étant également animée du désir de faire cesser par un arrangement conforme aux vœux de la religion, de la justice, et de l'humanité, la lutte dont la Grèce et l'Archipel sont à présent le théâtre;

Les Soussignés sont convenus:—

1. Que l'arrangement à proposer à la Porte, si elle accepte la médiation qui lui a été offerte, placerait les Grecs dans les relations suivantes avec l'Empire Ottoman:

Les Grecs relèveraient de cet Empire et lui payeraient un tribut annuel dont le montant serait fixé une fois pour toutes d'un commun accord.

Ils seraient gouvernés par des autorités qu'ils choisiraient et nommeraient eux-mêmes, mais à la nomination desquels la Porte aurait une certaine part.

Dans ce mode d'existence ils jouiraient d'une entière liberté de conscience et de commerce, et gèreraient exclusivement eux-mêmes leur administration intérieure.

Pour opérer une séparation entière entre les individus des deux nations, et pour prévenir des collisions, suite nécessaire d'une lutte aussi longue, les Grecs

feraient l'acquisition des propriétés Turques qui pourraient être situés ou sur le Continent, ou dans les Iles de la Grèce.

2. Que si le principe d'une médiation à interposer entre la Turquie et la Grèce avait été admis à la suite des démarches déjà faites dans cette vue par l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Britannique à Constantinople, la Russie ferait dans tous les cas servir son influence au succès de la dite médiation. Le mode d'après lequel elle s'associerait aux négociations ultérieures que cette médiation amènerait avec la Porte Ottomane, et l'époque où elle y prendrait part, seraient déterminés ultérieurement d'un commun accord entre le Cabinet de Londres et celui de St. Pétersbourg.

3. Que dans le cas où la médiation offerte par Sa Majesté Britannique à la Porte Ottomane n'aurait pas été acceptée par cette Puissance, et quel que soit d'ailleurs l'état des relations de Sa Majesté Impériale avec le Gouvernement Turc, la Grande Bretagne et la Russie regarderont toujours les termes de l'arrangement mentionnée à la 1^{re} Article du présent Protocole, comme la base de la reconciliation à effectuer par leur entremise, soit en commun, soit séparément entre la Porte et les Grecs; et ils saisiront toutes les occasions favorables de faire valoir leur influence auprès des deux parties, afin d'opérer cette même reconciliation sur la dite base.

4. Que la Grande Bretagne et la Russie se réservent d'adopter par la suite des mesures nécessaires pour déterminer les détails de l'arrangement en question, ainsi que les limites du territoire, et les noms des Iles de l'Archipel auxquelles il sera applicable, et qu'il sera proposé à la Porte de comprendre sous la dénomination de "Grèce."

5. Que de plus dans ce même arrangement Sa Majesté Britannique et Sa Majesté Impériale ne chercheront ni l'une ni l'autre aucune augmentation de territoire, aucune influence exclusive, aucun avantage de commerce pour leurs sujets que ceux de toute autre nation ne puissent également obtenir.

6. Que Sa Majesté Britannique et Sa Majesté Impériale désirant que leurs alliés puissent participer aux arrangements définitifs dont le présent Protocole renferme une première esquisse, porteront le dit Protocole confidentiellement à la connaissance des Cours de Vienne, de Paris, et de Berlin, et leur proposeront de garantir de concert avec la Russie la transaction finale qui reconciliera la Turquie et la Grèce, cette transaction ne pouvant être garantie par Sa Majesté Britannique.

Fait à St. Pétersbourg, le ^{23 Mars}_{4 Avril}, 1826.

(Signé)

WELLINGTON.

NESELRODE.
LIEVEN.

(Translation.)

HIS Britannic Majesty having been requested by the Greeks to interpose his good offices in order to obtain their reconciliation with the Ottoman Porte, having, in consequence, offered his mediation to that Power, and being desirous of concerting the measures of his Government upon this subject with His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias; and His Imperial Majesty, on the other hand, being equally animated by the desire of putting an end to the contest of which Greece and the Archipelago are the theatre, by an arrangement which shall be consistent with the principles of religion, justice, and humanity, the Undersigned have agreed:—

1. That the arrangement to be proposed by the Porte, if that Government should accept the proffered mediation, should have for its object to place the Greeks towards the Ottoman Porte in the relation hereafter mentioned:

Greece should be a dependency of that Empire, and the Greeks should pay to the Porte an annual tribute, the amount of which should be permanently fixed by common consent. They should be exclusively governed by authorities to be chosen and named by themselves, but in the nomination of which authorities the Porte should have a certain influence.

In this state the Greeks should enjoy a complete liberty of conscience, entire freedom of commerce, and should exclusively conduct their own internal government.

In order to effect a complete separation between individuals of the two nations, and to prevent the collisions which must be the necessary consequence of a contest of such duration, the Greeks should purchase the property of Turks, whether situated on the continent of Greece or in the islands.

2. In case the principle of a mediation between Turks and Greeks should have been admitted, in consequence of the steps taken with that view by His Britannic

Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, His Imperial Majesty would exert, in every case, his influence to forward the object of that mediation. The mode in which, and the time at which, His Imperial Majesty should take part in the ulterior negotiations with the Ottoman Porte, which may be the consequence of that mediation, should be determined hereafter by the common consent of the Governments of His Britannic Majesty and His Imperial Majesty.

3. If the mediation offered by His Britannic Majesty should not have been accepted by the Porte, and whatever may be the nature of the relations between His Imperial Majesty and the Turkish Government, His Britannic Majesty and His Imperial Majesty will still consider the terms of the arrangement specified in No. 1 of this Protocol, as the basis of any reconciliation to be effected by their intervention, whether in concert or separately, between the Porte and the Greeks; and they will avail themselves of every favourable opportunity to exert their influence with both parties, in order to effect this reconciliation on the above-mentioned basis.

4. That His Britannic Majesty and His Imperial Majesty should reserve to themselves to adopt hereafter the measures necessary for the settlement of the details of the arrangement in question, as well as the limits of the territory, and the names of the islands of the Archipelago to which it shall be applicable, and which it shall be proposed to the Porte to comprise under the denomination of "Greece."

5. That, moreover, His Britannic Majesty and His Imperial Majesty will not seek in this arrangement any increase of territory, nor any exclusive influence nor advantage in commerce for their subjects, which shall not be equally attainable by all other nations.

6. That His Britannic Majesty and His Imperial Majesty being desirous that their allies should become parties to the definitive arrangements of which this Protocol contains the outline, will communicate this instrument confidentially to the Courts of Vienna, Paris, and Berlin, and will propose to them that they should, in concert with the Emperor of Russia, guarantee the Treaty by which the reconciliation of Turks and Greeks shall be effected, as His Britannic Majesty cannot guarantee such a Treaty.

Done at St. Petersburg, ^{March 23}_{April 4}, 1826.

(Signed) WELLINGTON.

NESSELRODE.
LIEVEN.

No. 5.

Mr. Canning to Count Lieven.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, August 29, 1826.

AFTER having transmitted to the Representatives of our respective Sovereigns at Paris, Vienna, and Berlin, the necessary authority for communicating to those several Courts the Protocol of the 4th of April, the next object that presents itself for our consideration is to examine how far events subsequent to the signature of the Protocol may have affected any of its provisions, and may have created either obstacles on the one hand, or facilities on the other, to the carrying of those provisions into execution.

The Memorandum which your Excellency has put into my hands affords a convenient guide for such an examination.

The questions stated in that Memorandum divide themselves into two parts:—

1st. What has been the result of the overtures made by His Majesty's Ambassador to the Ottoman Porte in execution of his original instructions?

2ndly. What are the instructions now to be given to His Majesty's Ambassador in execution of the provisions of the Protocol of April?

I. The result of the overtures made by His Majesty's Ambassador to the Porte, for the purpose of inducing the Ottoman Government to treat for the pacification of Greece, appears in the despatches from that Ambassador.

It is a result which was naturally to be expected under the alteration of circumstances which had taken place during the interval which had elapsed after the instructions for Mr. Stratford Canning were drawn, and before he arrived at Constantinople.

II. The inclosures exhibit the execution and effect of that part of the Ambassador's instructions which related to the project imputed to Ibrahim Pasha

(with the connivance of the Porte) for the depopulation and subsequent re-colonization of the Morea.

It is not easy to draw a confident inference from the conduct of the Porte in this discussion.

In the face of the Reis Effendi's positive verbal denial of the plan imputed to the Porte and its vassal, it would be hardly warrantable to found an assumption of the truth of such an imputation on the mere refusal (not unusual with the Porte) to repeat its verbal denial in writing.

III. The instructions with which the British Ambassador was furnished on these subjects at his departure for Constantinople being thus exhausted, those to be furnished to him for his future proceedings thereupon would have been to be founded entirely upon the Protocol of April; but for an occurrence (coinciding remarkably as well with the date as the substance of the Protocol) which has already afforded to the British Ambassador an opportunity, and indeed imposed upon him the obligation, to re-open with the Turkish Government a discussion respecting the pacification of Greece.

About the same time that the Protocol reached the hands of the British Ambassador, he received the letter from the new Greek Government.

The substance of the opinions expressed in this paper was indeed collected by Mr. Stratford Canning in his conferences with certain leading individuals among the Greeks on his way to Constantinople, and is recorded in the Protocol as the foundation of that agreement; but never till the receipt of the inclosed paper were we formally authorized to declare to the Turkish Government, as a fact of which we had positive knowledge, the readiness of the Greeks to come to an accommodation upon any terms short of absolute and total independence.

This paper supplies us with that authority.

In other respects the contents of the Protocol and of this paper coincide, as I have said, in a remarkable degree:—

1st. The recognition of the suzerainty of the Porte;

2ndly. The payment of an annual tribute;—both proposed by the Protocol, are both voluntarily offered by the Greeks. In return, they require what the Protocol stipulates for them:—

1st. Complete independence of internal government and administration.

2ndly. Complete separation of Christian and Turkish society.

These are the essential and fundamental bases of a reconciliation.

The only material differences between the two projects of pacification are:—

1st. That the Protocol assumes a willingness on the side of the Greeks to admit a certain qualified participation of the Porte in the original composition of the Greek Executive Government, which willingness is not expressed in the Greek paper.

2ndly. That the Greeks do not distinctly advert to the purchase of the Turkish property which is to be given up, in order to effect the required separation between Turks and Christians.

3rdly. That the Greeks propose to extend the benefit of the arrangement to the whole of Greece, including even those parts which may be occupied by the Turkish arms.

4thly. That the Greeks require, as a condition *sine qua non* of any arrangement to be made, the guarantee of Great Britain.

With regard to all these differences, however, it is to be observed that they are not greater or more numerous than were naturally to be expected between the demands of one of two parties to a dispute, and the suggestions of an impartial mediator. There is nothing in them which is not susceptible of modification.

The first is an omission only, not a contradiction, in the Greek paper, of that which is contained in the Protocol. Supposing other parts of the arrangement satisfactorily adjusted, there is no reason to despair of inducing the Greeks to consent to conform to the suggestion of the Protocol in this particular.

As to the second, the Greeks having admitted the principle of a pecuniary payment, and the Protocol suggesting the principle of a transfer of property, there seems to be no reason why the details of the proposed separation may not be amicably adjusted.

As to the third, the Greeks, perhaps, could ask no less; but the Protocol expressly reserves the designation of territory for an ulterior stage of the discussion.

As to the required British guarantee, it must be remembered that the demand

for that guarantee is put forward by the Greeks in an application addressed to Great Britain alone; and not having in contemplation the joint intervention in their behalf of any other Power or Powers.

When the reasons which induce us to wish to decline undertaking such guarantee shall have been explained to the Greeks, and when the guarantee of other Continental Powers, together with that of Russia, shall be offered to them, it is hardly to be apprehended that this difference alone will be an obstacle to a satisfactory understanding.

The British Ambassador would have been instructed immediately to bring forward a new overture to the Porte, founded on this application from the Greeks, had not the existence of the Protocol rendered it incumbent upon us not to proceed to any new negotiation with the Porte except in concert with the Russian Government.

It is fortunate, perhaps, that there has existed this occasion for delay.

The situation of affairs at Constantinople during the last three months has been such as offered but an unfavourable opportunity for opening any subject with the Divan which required a patient and dispassionate consideration.

It appears to the British Government, however, that no time should now be lost in furnishing His Majesty's Ambassador with instructions conformable at once to the provisions of the Protocol, and to the propositions of the Greeks.

The details of those instructions; the corresponding instructions to be sent by the Court of St. Petersburg to its destined Representative at Constantinople; the mode and the time of inviting the allies to lend their aid to this new attempt for the settlement of a question deeply interesting to the tranquillity of Europe; and finally, the means by which that settlement is to be recommended to the adoption of the Ottoman Government,—will form the matter of our next deliberation.

Meantime it is proposed to make to the Courts of Paris, Vienna, and Berlin, with your Excellency's concurrence and co-operation, the like confidential communication of this letter to your Excellency, and of its inclosures, as has been made of the Protocol and of the preceding part of the correspondence between your Excellency and me thereupon.

No. 6.

Mr. Canning to Count Lieven.

M. le Comte,

Foreign Office, September 4, 1826.

I PROCEED to the consideration of the questions which your Excellency has proposed to me respecting the measures to be taken in execution of the Protocol of April, in the event (which has actually occurred) of the first overtures of His Majesty's Ambassador at the Porte proving unsuccessful.

I state these questions (I believe correctly) in the inclosed paper.

The first and fourth questions are already satisfactorily disposed of by the direct application of the Greeks for the intervention of the British Ambassador at Constantinople.

Those conditions of an arrangement between the contending parties, which the Protocol of April had suggested as equitable and reasonable, and had assumed (on the faith of individual opinions among the Greeks) to be not inadmissible on their part, the British Ambassador is now distinctly authorized to bring forward (with few variations), as constituting conditions which the Greeks are agreed in demanding, and with the concession of which they would be contented.

His Majesty's Ambassador, therefore, by laying before the Turkish Government the propositions of the Greek letter, will not only conform his proceedings to the spirit of the Protocol, but will bring forward, in effect, all the stipulations of that instrument, with only those exceptions which are pointed out in my last letter to your Excellency. It may, perhaps, be safely left to the Turks to insist on those excepted stipulations.

Should the arrangement be found in its essential and fundamental points acceptable to both parties, those comparatively less important differences could not long obstruct the conclusion of it.

The question of British guarantee is one between Great Britain and the Greeks, with which, in this stage of the discussion, it is not necessary to embarrass ourselves.

It is proposed, therefore, that His Majesty's Ambassador shall be instructed to prepare forthwith an official note to the Porte, founded on the basis of the Greek letter.

It must be left to the discretion of the Ambassador to select the fit opportunity for making this overture, so far as that selection depends upon the state of things at Constantinople.

The second and third questions propose, respectively, the two opposite hypotheses of a successful issue to the negotiations at Akerman on the one hand, or of their failure on the other.

It is asked, "What, in the first hypothesis, are the instructions to be given to the Russian Minister at the Porte, as to the share which he is to take in the execution of the Protocol; and what the principles upon which he should act in concert with His Majesty's Ambassador?"

In the second hypothesis (which excludes the notion of a Russian Minister at Constantinople), it is asked, "In what manner will it be expedient to proceed for the purpose of giving effect to the beneficent stipulations of the Protocol?"

In the first hypothesis (that which is the most to be expected, as well as the most to be desired), it appears clear to the British Government that the avowed, direct, and cordial co-operation of M. Ribeaupierre in the overture of the British Ambassador will be the measure at once the most consonant with the spirit of the Protocol and the most likely to be conducive to its success.

The Greek letter must be the basis of the British Ambassador's overture, because from that alone he derives the authority to speak confidently of the wishes and intentions of the Greeks, and consequently the means of defeating the pretext hitherto put forward by the Turkish Government that even if the Porte were disposed to pacification there is no assurance of a reciprocal disposition on the part of its revolted subjects.

But though the proceeding of the British Ambassador is to be thus founded upon the Greek letter, the Protocol of April may (as the British Government think) be advantageously announced at the same time to the Turkish Government, as constituting the pledge of co-operation between Russia and England.

It may be frankly avowed to the Reis Effendi that the execution of the instructions of the British Ambassador has been hitherto delayed for the express purpose of waiting the benefit of that co-operation, to be derived (as was confidently anticipated) from the happy result of the negotiations of Akerman.

The near coincidence between what was agreed upon at St. Petersburg in April by the Plenipotentiaries of Russia and England as the extent of the concessions to be reasonably required for the Greeks, with what the Greeks, at nearly the same moment, were agreeing upon at Napoli di Romania as that which would satisfy them, may be fairly stated to the Turkish Ministers as an indication at once of the altered temper of the Greeks and of the indisposition of the two allied Powers to lend themselves to pretensions unnecessarily unfavourable to the interests of the Ottoman Empire.

The invitation to other Powers to accede to this arrangement and to lend the sanction of their guarantee to it, when carried into effect, will, if accepted (as there is every reason, from the reception of our first communication to the allies, to hope that it will be), present the first instance of a combined appeal to the Porte on the part of the quintuple alliance; while, on the other hand, the refusal (if that were to be apprehended) of any one of the members of that alliance to come into the arrangement, or the different degrees (if such difference there should happen to be) of their co-operation, would not in this, as in former instances, destroy the effect of our overture to the Divan.

The Protocol of April, the bond of union between England and Russia, would still remain unaltered, and the principle of its operation unimpaired.

The second hypothesis, while it is, I trust, the more improbable of occurrence, is also the more difficult of discussion, because it is not clearly indicated in your Excellency's Memorandum what would be the immediate consequences of a failure of the negotiations at Akerman as affecting the relations of Russia and the Porte.

It is unnecessary to say how earnestly and anxiously the British Government continues to deprecate the breaking out of a war which, however the Emperor of Russia may have studied, by all His Imperial Majesty's declarations, to define and circumscribe its object and its range, might nevertheless lead to complications fatal to the general tranquillity of Europe.

Viewed simply with reference to the Protocol, the effect of a war between

Russia and Turkey must obviously be to deprive Her Majesty's Ambassador at the Porte of any assistance from direct Russian co-operation. But the 3rd Article of the Protocol would, in our judgment, be still obligatory upon Russia. In any pacification by which that war should be concluded, Russia would be morally bound to stipulate for the Greeks to the extent of the stipulations proposed in the Protocol, but bound at the same time to stipulate for them in no other manner and to no greater extent.

The self-denying engagements by which the two High Contracting Parties bind themselves to each other in the 5th Article of the Protocol, would also, in our opinion, continue in full force.

There remains to be considered the concluding question:—

“What are the determinations to be taken in the event of the Porte's showing itself inaccessible to any proposition relative to Greece?”

It has been already sufficiently explained to the Court of St. Petersburg that the British Government could not consider the refusal of the Porte to listen to proposals for an accommodation with Greece as a just cause of war on the part of the Power through whose mediation those proposals may have been made.

But though we do not consider such a refusal as giving a right of war against the Porte, we do conceive the continuance of a contest so ferocious in its details, so hopeless of termination, and leading to excesses of piracy and plunder intolerable to civilized Europe, to be an evil of so extraordinary a character as to justify extraordinary interposition, and to render lawful any expedients, short of positive hostility, for impressing upon the recusant party the necessity of a reasonable accommodation.

In this view His Majesty's Ambassador has already brought before the Porte, in general but forcible terms (by the note of which the inclosed is a copy), the dangers which she incurs from the continuance of the piratical excesses in the Archipelago.

In this view also, the intimation held out by His Majesty's Ambassador in the name of his Government, with respect to the alleged plan of Ibrahim Pasha, has been left suspended, but ready to be carried into execution, if what is as yet only matter of suspicion should ever become matter of proof.

Russia may express sentiments and take measures analogous to these; or she may declare her knowledge and approbation of those already taken by England.

Other Powers may do the like, and such concurrence, if general, could hardly fail to make the Porte reflect seriously on her position.

But there are still other measures short of war which would be at once just in principle, and calculated to produce a salutary effect upon the feelings of the Turkish Government.

Assuming that the negotiations at Akerman succeed, and that a Russian Minister has been established at Constantinople, we think that the threat of a simultaneous withdrawing of the Christian Missions from Constantinople, upon an obstinate rejection by the Porte of all proposals of pacification, and the actual execution of that threat if necessary, might constitute a powerful appeal to the pride as well as to the prudence of the Grand Seignior.

The advisableness of taking this step, it must be acknowledged, would depend upon the concurrence of other Powers. But if Russia and England were agreed as to the expediency of taking it, the probability is that neither France nor Austria would pursue an opposite course.

Neither of those Powers could desire to afford countenance and support to the Ottoman Government in the protraction of a contest against the consequences of which both of them have recently protested in the strongest manner, and against which Austria especially has been obliged to resort to naval exertions on an altogether unusual scale.

There is yet a further step, one which the Austrian Government recommended to the adoption of the allies at the Conferences of St. Petersburg in the spring of 1825, which if it was justifiable under the circumstances of that period cannot but be still more clearly so now, after near two years more of ravage and bloodshed have fruitlessly desolated Greece, and after the Greeks have proved themselves capable of maintaining for nearly two years more a national struggle for independence.

On that occasion it was wisely as well as justly counselled by Austria, that if the Porte should decline the intervention of the allies, or if, having accepted that intervention, it should obstinately refuse all the concessions which they might

judge indispensable for bringing the Greek insurrection to an end, the Ministers of the allies should then assume a severer language and a more imposing attitude.

Accusing then, and with justice, the Divan alone of prolonging those fatal troubles of which the effect is felt throughout Europe, and which place in jeopardy alike the interests of Sovereigns and of their people, the allies would declare the impossibility of allowing such a state of things to exist longer.

They would give the Porte to understand that it was possible that the allied Powers might draw nearer to the Greeks; they might send to Greece Consular Agents, and receive such Agents in return; they might consent to recognize the existence of the Provisional Government in that country, and they might even threaten to admit, some day, the independence of the Morea and of the Islands.

It is to be presumed that when the Austrian Plenipotentiaries speak of the acknowledgment of the Morea and the Islands as an independent State, they intend that acknowledgment to be subject to the qualification that such State shall have shown itself substantially capable of maintaining an independent existence, of carrying on a Government of its own, of controlling its own military and naval forces, and of being responsible to other nations for the observance of international laws and the discharge of international duties.

These are questions of fact. By acknowledgment we can only acknowledge what is. We have never recognized in Spanish America any State in whose territory the dominion of the mother-country has not been practically extinguished, and which has not established some form of government with which we could treat.

What the Austrian Plenipotentiaries mean, therefore, we conclude to be this: That we should intimate to the Turks that (in the case supposed) we should look to Greece with an eye of favour, and with a disposition to seize the first occasion of recognizing as an independent State such portion of her territory as may have freed itself from Turkish dominion.

In this sense, and with this qualification, it does appear to us that what the Austrian Plenipotentiaries have recommended is a judicious, and would probably be an effective, course of action.

If this plan was fit to be recommended when the consent of the Greeks to any reasonable terms of accommodation was uncertain, how much more clearly advisable is it now, when the Greeks have shown themselves capable of being satisfied with terms so far short of the extreme pretensions which they were heretofore supposed to entertain?

If the allies agree now to adopt this plan, it can hardly be doubted that upon their united representations the Porte will prefer the qualified suzeraineté which the Greeks offer, and which the Protocol secures to her over Greece, to the acknowledgment of the Morea and the Islands as an independent State by the most considerable Powers of Europe, with Austria at their head.

Such, therefore, are the means by which we hope to prevail with the Divan, avoiding the extremity of war, and such the order in which we think those means may be successively employed.

I have nothing further to observe to your Excellency, except that upon the principles herein laid down (if your Excellency sees nothing to object to in them) will be founded the instructions which I am about to prepare for His Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

Inclosure 1 in No. 6.

Memorandum relative to the Protocol of April 4, 1826.

1. DANS le cas où les ouvertures de Mr. Stratford Canning relatives à la pacification de la Grèce auraient été repoussées, le section 3 du Protocole du ^{23 Mars}_{4 Avril}, imposant à la Russie et à l'Angleterre l'obligation de profiter séparément ou ensemble de toutes les occasions favorables de faire valoir leur influence auprès de la Porte pour effectuer l'arrangement dont ce même Protocole renferme les bases, quelles sont les idées du Cabinet Britannique sur l'accomplissement de cette obligation dans l'état actuel des choses ?

2. Le succès de la dernière démarche du Cabinet de Russie auprès du Divan doit nécessairement lui rendre de l'influence à Constantinople.

Le Cabinet de Russie se plaît également à espérer la réussite des négociations qui vont s'ouvrir à Akerman.

Dans cette dernière hypothèse, de quelles instructions le Ministre de Sa Majesté Impériale auprès de la Porte devrait-il être muni relativement à l'exécution du Protocole du ^{23 Mars}_{4 Avril} ? Et d'après quels principes doit-il à cet égard concerter ses démarches et son attitude avec celles de Mr. Stratford Canning ?

3. Dans le cas où, contre toute attente, les négociations d'Akerman n'auraient pas l'issue désirée, quelle serait encore l'opinion de l'Angleterre sur le meilleur plan à suivre pour réaliser les bienfaisantes stipulations du Protocole ci-dessus mentionné ?

4. De plus l'Angleterre a-t-elle fait, ou compte-t-elle faire maintenant, auprès des Grecs quelque démarche qui aurait pour l'objet l'accomplissement de cet acte, ou la fixation des détails qu'il a laissé indécis, et qui en vertu du section 4 devaient être déterminés plus tard ?

5. Enfin, si la Porte était inaccessible à toute proposition relative à la Grèce, quel serait l'avis de la Cour de Londres sur les déterminations à prendre dans cette hypothèse ?

(Translation.)

1. In case the overtures of Mr. Stratford Canning relative to the pacification of Greece should be unsuccessful, Section 3 of the Protocol of the ^{23rd March}_{4th April}, imposing upon Russia and England the obligation to take advantage, separately or together, of every favourable opportunity to use their influence with the Porte for carrying into effect the arrangement whose bases are contained in this same Protocol, what are the opinions of the British Cabinet as to the carrying into effect of this obligation in the present state of affairs ?

2. The success of the last step taken by the Russian Cabinet towards the Turkish Government must inevitably restore Russian influence at Constantinople.

The Russian Cabinet also likes to believe that the negotiations at Akerman will meet with success.

In this latter hypothesis what instructions should the Minister of His Imperial Majesty receive relative to the execution of the Protocol of the ^{23rd March}_{4th April} ? and on what principles should he conduct his negotiations, and what attitude should he assume towards Mr. Stratford Canning ?

3. In case the negotiations at Akerman should, contrary to expectation, fail of success, what would be the opinion of England on the best plan to adopt in order to realize the benefits stipulated for in the Protocol above-mentioned ?

4. Moreover, has England taken, or does she calculate upon taking, any action towards the Greeks which may have for its object the accomplishment of this Act, or the determination of any details left undecided by it, and which, in accordance with Section 4, were to be decided at a later period ?

5. Finally, if the Porte were to be found accessible to every proposition relative to Greece, what would be the opinion of the Court of London in this hypothesis as to line of action to be pursued ?

Inclosure 2 in No. 6.

*Mr. Stratford Canning to Reis Effendi.**Pera, ce 13 Juin, 1826.*

LE Soussigné invite le Reis Effendi à fixer son attention sur les faits et les observations qui suivent.

Son Excellence ne peut ignorer que les Capitulations, confirmées par le Traité de Paix de 1809, constituent la base des relations amicales qui subsistent entre la Grande Bretagne et la Sublime Porte.

Il est de même notoire que l'objet principal de ces engagements est la protection du commerce Britannique dans les ports et dans les mers de la Turquie.

Le Soussigné s'est déjà trouvé contraint à se plaindre de plus d'un acte d'injustice et de violence commis par les autorités Ottomanes au préjudice des sujets Britanniques et en dépit des Traités. Il s'est aussi trouvé dans la nécessité de réclamer contre les délais et les obstacles que la Sublime Porte ne met que trop souvent à redresser les griefs les mieux fondés.

Aujourd'hui un objet majeur, d'une importance plus grave, d'un intérêt plus urgent, se présente.

La piraterie, suite de la lutte qui désole depuis cinq ans les Provinces de la Grèce, est à son comble dans l'Archipel. La sûreté de la navigation dans ces parages est détruite. Nul pavillon n'est respecté. Les bâtimens sont saisis; les cargaisons sont pillées; les équipages, très souvent maltraités, se croient heureux d'échapper avec la vie. Enfin les escadres de plusieurs Gouvernemens, maintenues à grands fraix dans les eaux du Levant, ne suffisent plus pour protéger le commerce.

On demande qui sont ces forbans qui portent partout le désordre, et qui menacent de rendre inutiles et quasi nuls les engagements les plus essentiels contractés par le Gouvernement Turc envers les nations de la Chrétienté.

On répond que ce sont des sujets de la Porte qui, irrités de vexations et réduits à la misère, se livrent en désespérés au brigandage comme à l'unique moyen qui leur reste de vivre, sans retourner à une condition devenue à leurs yeux odieuse et insupportable.

Le Soussigné croit remplir les devoirs d'une amitié sincère en signalant à la Sublime Porte cet état de choses vraiment déplorable, et en l'avertissant du jugement que sa Cour doit nécessairement former de la cause de ces désordres, qui attaquent directement les intérêts de son commerce et compromettent la dignité de son pavillon.

C'est peu que la justice et la loi des nations attribuent au Gouvernement lésé le droit d'exiger que l'on indemnise ses sujets des torts et des dommages qu'ils auraient éprouvés, ou de remonter à la source du mal et y remédier d'une manière complète et permanente. Il est toutefois impossible de voir sans peine une partie intéressante de l'Europe abandonnée, dans un temps de tranquillité générale, aux horreurs d'une guerre barbare, le crime, enfanté du malheur et du besoin, s'étendre sur toute une population, et la paix même de l'Europe exposée durant des désordres à de chances périlleuses.

Le Soussigné, &c.

(Signé)

STRATFORD CANNING.

(Translation.)

Pera, June 13, 1826.

THE Undersigned begs to call the attention of Reis Effendi upon the following facts and observations.

He must be aware that the Capitulations confirmed by the Treaty of Peace of 1809 constitute the basis of the amicable relations which exist between Great Britain and the Sublime Porte.

It is also notorious that the principal object of these engagements is the protection of British commerce in the ports and seas of Turkey.

The Undersigned has already found himself obliged to complain of more than one act of injustice and violence committed by the Ottoman authorities to the prejudice of the subjects of Great Britain and in contravention of Treaties. He has also found himself obliged to protest against the delays and the obstacles with which the Sublime Porte too often obstructs the settlement of the best founded complaints. At present a more important matter, and of a more urgent description, presents itself.

Piracy, the consequence of the strife which has desolated during five years the provinces of Greece, is rife in the Archipelago. The security of navigation is destroyed. No flag is respected. Ships are seized, cargoes are pillaged, the crews, often ill-treated, esteem themselves happy if they escape with their lives. Finally, the squadrons of several Governments, maintained at great cost in the waters of the Levant, do not suffice to protect commerce.

It is asked, who are these pirates who bring disorder everywhere, and who threaten to render useless, and almost to annul, the most sacred engagements contracted by the Turkish Government towards the nations of Christianity?

It is answered that they are subjects of the Porte who, irritated by vexatious treatment, and reduced to misery, give themselves up in despair to brigandage as to the sole means of existence left to them without returning to a condition of life which has become, in their eyes, odious and insupportable.

The Undersigned believes he is fulfilling the duties of a sincere friendship by calling the attention of the Sublime Porte to this truly deplorable state of things, and in informing it of the opinion which his Court have necessarily formed of the origin of these disorders which directly affect the interests of their trade, and compromise the dignity of their flag.

It is no important prerogative that justice and the law of nations ascribe to an aggrieved nation that it has a right to demand that its subjects should be indemnified for the wrongs and injuries they may have sustained, or to go back to the origin of the wrongs they have suffered, and remedy them in a complete and lasting manner. It is nevertheless impossible to see without pain an interesting portion of Europe abandoned at a period of general tranquillity to the horrors of a barbarous war, to see crime, the growth of misfortune and of want, spreading over a whole population, and the peace of Europe itself exposed during these disorders to the chance of danger.

(Signed)

STRATFORD CANNING.

No. 7.

Prince Lieven to Mr. Canning.—(Received November 20.)

Monsieur,

Londres, le 7⁷/₁₉ Novembre, 1826.

JE me suis empressé de porter à la connaissance de mon auguste Maître l'office en date du 4 Septembre, dans lequel votre Excellence, en exposant les vues de son Gouvernement relatives à la pacification de la Grèce, a examiné la marche à suivre pour amener le Gouvernement Ottoman à coopérer à ce but, dans la double hypothèse de la rupture, ou d'une heureuse conclusion des négociations d'Akerman.

Sa Majesté l'Empereur a accueilli avec tout l'intérêt qu'elles méritaient les ouvertures pleines de franchise et de pensées utiles que cette communication de votre Excellence contenait, et l'hypothèse du succès de nos négociations avec les Plénipotentiaires Ottomans s'étant heureusement réalisée, mon auguste Maître m'a autorisé de concerter avec votre Excellence (1), le mode à suivre pour communiquer aux Cours de Vienne, de Paris, et de Berlin, son office du 4 Septembre, et ma réponse de ce jour; et (2) les moyens de les engager à prendre part aux démarches que la Russie et l'Angleterre feront auprès de la Porte, à leur imprimer ce caractère collectif si conforme aux désirs de l'Empereur comme à ceux du Gouvernement Anglais, et à mettre dans la balance tout le poids d'un accord complètement Européen.

J'ai en outre ordre d'annoncer au Cabinet Britannique, au nom de Sa Majesté Impériale, en réponse à l'office de votre Excellence du 4 Septembre:—

Qu'il est convenu entre la Russie et l'Angleterre que cet office même servira d'instruction commune à M. de Ribeaupierre et Mr. Stratford Canning;

Que dès que M. de Ribeaupierre sera arrivé à Constantinople, il aura à se concerter avec l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Britannique sur les démarches officielles et simultanées que les deux Cours feront ensemble auprès de la Porte, pour lui communiquer le Protocole du ^{23 Mars}_{4 Avril} l'inviter à y adhérer, et lui proposer également la conclusion immédiate d'une armistice;

Qu'en cas de réponse négative de sa part, et dans la supposition que ce moyen, à la fois le plus simple et le plus propre à agir sur l'esprit du Grand Seigneur, obtienne l'assentiment des Cours alliées, ils menaceront la Porte de la rétraite des Représentants de ces Cours et d'un rapprochement avec la Grèce, qui finirait par les amener à reconnaître son indépendance;

Que si à l'expiration d'un délai qu'il s'agira de déterminer, la Porte persiste encore dans le même refus, ils effectueront leur départ et annonceront le rapprochement ci-dessus mentionné.

En communiquant à votre Excellence ces déterminations, basées sur les vues énoncées par le Gouvernement même de Sa Majesté Britannique, il me reste encore à remplir le devoir de lui réitérer ici, au nom de mon auguste Maître, l'assurance que Sa Majesté sait apprécier les liens que le Protocole a formés entre les deux Cours; qu'elle regarde comme très heureux et très importants les résultats auxquels il a déjà conduit; qu'elle est fermement décidée à y donner suite; et qu'elle a l'intime conviction de voir amenée à une issue satisfaisante l'œuvre de conciliation et de paix entreprise sous d'aussi favorables auspices.

J'ai, &c.
(Signé) LIEVEN.

(Translation.)

Sir,

London, November 7th, 1826.

I LOST no time in bringing to the knowledge of my august Master the note dated the 4th of September, in which your Excellency, while stating the views of your Government relative to the pacification of Greece, has examined the steps to be taken to induce the Ottoman Government to co-operate for this object, either in the hypothesis of a rupture, or of a happy conclusion of the negotiations of Akerman.

His Majesty the Emperor has received with the interest which they merited the overtures conspicuous for their frankness and practical ideas which this communication of your Excellency contained, and the hypothesis of the success of our negotiations with the Ottoman Plenipotentiaries being happily realized, my august Master has authorized me to concert with your Excellency as to the means to be adopted for communicating to the Court of Vienna, of Paris, and of Berlin, his communication of the 4th of September, and my answer of to-day; and (2), as to the means to be adopted to induce these Courts to participate in the action of Russia and Great Britain towards the Porte, to give to them that collective character which is in conformity alike with the wishes of the Emperor and those of the English Government, and to throw into the scale the whole weight of the European accord.

I have, moreover to announce to the British Cabinet, in the name of His Imperial Majesty, in reply to your Excellency's note of September 4:—

That it is understood between Russia and England that this note itself will serve as instructions both to M. de Ribeaupierre and to Mr. Stratford Canning;

That as soon as M. de Ribeaupierre arrives at Athens, it will be his duty to concert with the Ambassador of His Britannic Majesty as to the official and simultaneous measures to be adopted by those two Courts towards the Porte, to communicate to it the Protocol of the ^{23rd March}_{4 April}, to invite it to adhere to this Protocol, and to propose to it also the immediate conclusion of an armistice;

That in case of a refusal on the part of the Ottoman Government, and in the supposition that this measure, at once the simplest and the one most calculated to succeed with the Sultan, should attain the consent of the allied Courts, they should threaten the Sultan with the departure of the Representatives of these Courts, and with the formation of relations with Greece, which would terminate by leading them to recognize her independence;

That if, after a period of delay, which it will be necessary to fix, the Porte still persists in the same refusal, the Representatives will take their departure, and will enter into relations with Greece.

In communicating these resolutions to your Excellency, based as they are upon the views put forward by the Government of Great Britain itself, it still remains to me to fulfil the duty of reiterating here, in the name of my august Master, the assurance that His Majesty knows how to appreciate the value of the relations which the Protocol has formed between the two Courts; that His Majesty regards the results already attained as very beneficial and very important; that His Majesty is firmly determined to follow them up, and is fully convinced that the work of conciliation and of peace, undertaken under such favourable auspices, will arrive at a satisfactory termination.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LIEVEN.

Mr. Canning to Prince Lieven.

Mon Prince,

Foreign Office, November 20, 1826.

I HAVE laid before the King my master your Excellency's letter of yesterday, in answer to that which I had the honour to address to your Excellency on the 4th of September, and which your Excellency transmitted to Moscow for the consideration of your august Sovereign.

His Majesty has seen with the greatest satisfaction the cordial concurrence of the Emperor of Russia in the plan of proceeding suggested in my letter of September, for the execution of the Protocol of April, and I have received His Majesty's commands to lose no time in concerting with your Excellency the communication of the plan thus agreed upon by our two Courts to those of Paris, Berlin, and Vienna.

The declaration that instructions framed for His Majesty's Ambassador at the Porte, on the basis of my letter of the 4th of September, may serve also as instructions for M. Ribeaupierre, His Imperial Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, is highly flattering to the British Government, and furnishes a strong motive for hastening the further steps in this important affair; so that the order to His Majesty's Ambassador to enter upon the execution of his instructions may reach him as soon as possible after M. de Ribeaupierre's arrival at Constantinople.

I proceed, therefore, upon your Excellency's invitation, to propose to your Excellency that instructions should be sent without delay to the British and Russian Ambassadors and Ministers at Paris, Berlin, and Vienna, to make a joint communication to those several Courts of my letter of the 4th of September and of your Excellency's letter of yesterday; adding thereto the expression of an earnest hope, on the part of both our Sovereigns, that those Courts may be disposed to co-operate with the signing parties to the Protocol, for the pacification of Eastern Europe, and that they will send instructions to their Representatives at Constantinople to enter into unreserved communication with His Majesty's Ambassador, and with the Minister of your Imperial Master at that residence, with the assurance that Mr. Stratford Canning and M. Ribeaupierre are instructed to meet with the most entire confidence their advances towards such communication.

Whether this concert shall be established simply through the instrumentality of instructions from the several Powers to their Representatives at Constantinople, or whether any more formal accession of those Powers to the Protocol shall take place, may, according to the opinion of my Court, be best left to their own decision.

We do not pretend to insist upon such accession, but we should see it with pleasure, on the part of all or any of those Powers, or we would readily accept the co-operation of all or of any of them, to the degree and in the manner in which it may be most agreeable to each to afford it.

What it is most important for us to know as soon as possible from each is whether they are ready to join with us in the measure of withdrawing their Diplomatic Representatives from the Porte, in the event of an obstinate refusal on the part of the Sultan to listen to any proposal for accommodation.

Your Excellency will observe, on reference to my letter of the 4th of September, that it is there stated, as our opinion, that the efficacy of the menace to withdraw the Christian Missions from Constantinople, or even of the act of withdrawing them, would mainly depend upon the degree of concurrence which it obtained from other Powers. A hope is there expressed that if Russia and England concurred in recommending it, Austria, France, and Prussia would not pursue a different course.

But the question is left open for consideration whether, if in disappointment of this hope, France, Austria, and Prussia should decline to withdraw their Missions, it would be expedient for England and Russia alone to withdraw theirs, leaving the others in continued residence at Constantinople, or whether it might not be in that case more advisable to pass over that particular measure, and to go at once to such ulterior measures as the other Powers might agree in adopting.

It appears to us, upon mature reflection, that it would be more advisable that Mr. Stratford Canning and M. de Ribeaupierre should be instructed not to bring forward the menace of withdrawing from the Porte, unless other Powers shall authorize their Representatives to concur in it.

The allies may be requested, at the same time that they return their answer, to signify it also to their Missions at Constantinople.

It is not till every hope of a favourable acceptance of the propositions of the allies is exhausted, that the menace of withdrawing the Christian Missions should (in our opinion) be employed, and it is not till after a direct reference home, and specific orders from home, that it should be actually carried into execution.

The arrangements necessary to precede or accompany such a step, especially on the part of England and France, require such an interval; and the knowledge on the part of the Porte that a courier was dispatched from Constantinople on this errand, might possibly produce that reflection in the minds of the Ottoman Ministers which would render the execution of the orders with which that courier would return unnecessary.

Supposing the other Powers to decline concurring in the threat to withdraw their Representatives, we are of opinion that we should endeavour to induce the allies to resort at once to the second line of action pointed out in my letter of the 4th September, that in which Austria having been the original adviser of it, we may, it is to be hoped, reckon with confidence on her support.

Generally, it is our decided opinion that every effort should be made to secure the co-operation of our allies, and even, if opportunity offers, of other Powers; that we ought, indeed, to obtain the co-operation of all or of as many Powers, and on as many points, as we can.

It may be true that this plan of action, and the references incident to it, will occupy some time. But we do not think that a positive disadvantage.

There does not appear a likelihood of any considerable and immediate change in the state of affairs between the Porte and the Greeks.

The winter brings with it a practical armistice; and before the approach of the season favourable to the recommencement of hostilities, we trust that an armistice will have been established by Convention; which we agree with your Excellency's Government in considering as a necessary accompaniment to an amicable negotiation.

I believe I have now touched upon every point to which it appears necessary to advert in your Excellency's letter.

If I do not terminate mine without reminding your Excellency that the ultimate recognition of a separate and independent State in Greece (which forms the essential part of the Austrian plan of proceedings) is understood by us, with the qualifications explained in my letter of the 4th of September; and also that we should not consider a mere refusal of our proposed mediation by the Turkish Government as a justifying cause of war,—I beg your Excellency to be persuaded that I mention these particulars only lest, from the omission of them, the allies should conceive any unfounded alarm, unfavourable to the co-operation which we so earnestly desire, and which affords so much the best chance of success to a conciliatory negotiation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

No. 9.

Count Nesselrode to Prince Lieven.—(Communicated to Mr. Canning by Prince Lieven, February 21.)

Mon Prince,

St. Pétersbourg, le 21^e Juin, 1827.

JE me suis empressé de mettre sous les yeux de l'Empereur les rapports de votre Altesse en date du ^{23 Novembre} ^{5 Décembre} dernier. Mais comme vos dépêches nous faisaient principalement connaître les communications nouvelles que les Représentants de la Russie et de la Grande Bretagne allaient adresser aux Cabinets de Vienne, de Paris, et de Berlin, concernant la marche des négociations tendantes à la pacification du Levant, nous devons nécessairement, avant de vous faire une réponse, attendre les renseignements qui ne pouvaient tarder à nous parvenir sur l'accueil que ces communications recevraient de la part de nos alliés.

Aujourd'hui le Ministère Autrichien et le Ministère Français ayant articulé leurs opinions, le second ayant même émis une proposition spéciale, nous embrasserons dans la présente et les explications que vous avez eues avec le Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique à la suite de nos dépêches du 17^e 29 Septembre, et les ouvertures des Cours d'Autriche et de France.

Le premier sentiment qu'elles aient fait éprouver à l'Empereur est celui d'une sincère et vive satisfaction, sentiment qui résulte de la confiance réciproque dont elles offrent l'heureux témoignage. Nous essayeront de la justifier en ce qui nous concerne, mon Prince, par une franchise que nous regardons comme l'unique moyen de conserver avec nos alliés ces relations, si amicales et si intimes, dont l'état actuel de l'Europe augmente encore le prix.

Vos explications avec Mr. Canning et les communications que nous venons d'adresser de concert avec le Gouvernement Anglais aux Cours de Vienne, de Paris, et de Berlin, roulaient en majeure partie sur les décisions à prendre dans le cas où nos démarches pour le rétablissement de la paix de Grèce n'auraient pas de succès à Constantinople. La France a adopté nos vues communes à cet égard, et de son côté elle nous a fait une proposition tendante à imprimer le caractère plus obligatoire et plus solennel d'un Traité Européen aux stipulations préalables dont nous sommes convenus avec le Cabinet de St. James dans le Protocole du ^{29 Mars}_{4 Avril}.

Plus la pacification de la Grèce nous a toujours semblé être le complément nécessaire des résultats de nos autres négociations avec la Porte Ottomane, plus nous l'avons jugé indispensable aux intérêts généraux de l'Europe, comme à nos intérêts particuliers ; enfin plus nous avons insisté sur les utiles conséquences de l'accord qui s'établirait à ce sujet, entre les principaux Etats Chrétiens, et plus nous devons trouver aujourd'hui d'avantages dans les propositions qu'énonce le Cabinet des Tuileries, plus nous devons nous empresser de l'accueillir. Ce qui nous porte encore à y adhérer, c'est que Mr. Canning a lui-même, en dernier lieu, ouvert l'avis qu'il serait expédient de voir les autres Cours alliées devenir Parties Contractantes au Protocole que nous avons signé à St. Pétersbourg avec le Duc de Wellington, et que d'après cela nous ne saurions douter que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique ne se prête au vœu exprimé par la Cour de France. Mais il ne suffit pas de conclure un Traité dans une circonstance pareille—il faut en combiner l'exécution ; et comme deux moyens préliminaires ont déjà été signalés dans ce but par les Cabinets de Pétersbourg et de Londres, les questions que nous avons à discuter consistent à savoir si, d'après les calculs les plus probables, ces moyens sont suffisants pour faire atteindre aux Cours qui les employeront l'objet de leurs désirs, et si la conclusion d'un Traité ne nous impose pas le devoir de déterminer éventuellement des mesures plus efficaces.

La matière est si importante que nous n'hésiterons pas à reproduire des observations que nous avons déjà eu occasion de développer.

Notre première remarque se rapportera à la nature même des moyens mentionnés ci-dessus, des moyens sur lesquels nous avons appelé tout récemment l'attention de nos alliés. Pour nous convaincre jusqu'à quel point il nous est permis d'en espérer la réussite, nous examinerons d'abord les difficultés que leur application peut souffrir ; nous les apprécierons d'après la seule règle que nous possédions pour juger de l'avenir—d'après l'expérience du passé, et les cas à peu près analogues qu'ont offert nos négociations précédentes avec la Porte ; et nous verrons si nous avons lieu de croire à l'applanissement immédiat des obstacles auxquels il convient de nous attendre. La Grande Bretagne nous a proposé, au mois de Septembre 1826, d'arrêter en principe que si la Porte repoussait obstinément les ouvertures qui lui seront faites, les Puissances intervenantes rappelleraient leurs Représentants accrédités à Constantinople, et qu'elles se montreraient disposées à reconnaître un jour l'indépendance de la Grèce. La première de ces mesures est conditionnelle aux yeux des Cabinets de Londres et de Paris ; ils ne l'adopteront qu'autant qu'elle sera simultanément prise par toutes les Puissances, qui réclameraient la pacification de la Grèce. La seconde ne doit être pour le moment qu'une simple menace, une menace dont les événements ultérieurs peuvent amener ou ne pas amener la réalisation. Ni l'une ni l'autre n'ont motivé d'opposition de notre part, mais ni l'une ni l'autre ne nous ont jamais inspiré une entière confiance ; et nous nous placerions, nous-mêmes et nos alliés, dans une situation essentiellement fautive si nous leur dissimulions qu'à notre avis, dans le cas où ces moyens de négociation fussent les seuls auxquels on dût avoir recours, nous aborderions un des problèmes les plus difficiles dont la politique se soit jamais occupée, avec peu de chances d'arriver à une solution satisfaisante. Le rappel des Ambassadeurs doit être simultané. Nous concevons parfaitement les motifs qui font désirer cet accord, et nous sommes les premiers à en reconnaître les avantages : mais d'un côté il n'existe pas jusqu'à présent, et peut-être, avec les conditions auxquelles la Cour de Vienne veut le subordonner, sera-t-il difficile à établir ; de l'autre, nous voyons que dans ses dernières instructions à Mr. Stratford

Canning, le Ministère Anglais lui donne ordre de ne point quitter Constantinople, quand même l'accord en question se réaliserait, avant d'en avoir reçu l'injonction spéciale. Nos doutes sur les effets de cette mesure doivent donc nécessairement être proportionnés à l'incertitude qui règne sur son adoption. Mais nous irons plus loin. Nous supposerons que la mesure du rappel des Ambassadeurs soit adoptée dans toute son étendue; est-il bien démontré, et peut-on nous garantir, qu'elle produise une impression assez forte, et qu'au moment où les Représentants des Cours alliées quitteront Constantinople le Divan change de politique et de langage? Ce changement ne nous semble pas certain, et c'est sur l'autorité de l'expérience que se fondent nos appréhensions. En 1821, la Russie se trouva forcée de prodiguer les déclarations comminatoires à la Porte, elle se trouva forcée de rompre ses relations diplomatiques et commerciales avec elle; et néanmoins elle n'obtint pas l'adhésion du Gouvernement Turc à ses plus justes demandes. On nous objectera, sans doute, que si le rappel des Ambassadeurs était simultané, il légitimerait un meilleur espoir. Nous répondrons que cependant la crainte d'une lutte corps à corps avec la Russie est une de celles qui agissent avec le plus de puissance à Constantinople.

Les menaces articulées à plusieurs reprises par le Vicomte de Strangford n'ont jamais arraché que de vaines promesses, enfreintes presque aussitôt qu'énoncées; d'ailleurs à ces diverses époques nos demandes n'étaient peut-être pas en opposition aussi directe avec les préjugés des Turcs que le serait celle d'adhérer aux bases du Protocole du ^{23 Mars}_{4 Avril}, et si d'un côté les arrangements dont il consacre le principe sont conformes aux intérêts bien entendus de l'Empire Ottoman, de l'autre il faut nous préparer à combattre, dans cette circonstance, tout ce que la prévention peut inspirer d'erreurs, tout ce que des passions aveugles peuvent donner de ténacité. Il est en outre une vérité incontestable que l'habitude de négocier avec la Porte nous a révélée—c'est que les Gouvernements Orientaux sont doués d'un sentiment extraordinaire pour distinguer les simples démonstrations, quelque caractère qu'on leur imprime, des résolutions sérieuses dont l'accomplissement ne manque pas de suivre l'annonce. C'est ainsi que longtemps la Russie n'a pu recueillir aucun fruit de sa modération, malgré le langage menaçant que ses alliés parlaient à la Porte, mais que cinq mois ont suffi pour couronner une œuvre vainement tentée pendant dix années consécutives, dès qu'un sentiment intérieur qui ne les trompe jamais eut fait connaître aux Turcs que la patience avait atteint son terme, et que les effets succéderaient aux paroles. C'est par suite d'un principe politique et religieux que les Orientaux ne transigent qu'avec une nécessité absolue, mais qu'en revanche, le jour où cette nécessité se manifeste, la transaction s'accomplit. Ce système est dans leur culte, comme dans leurs mœurs, dans leurs traditions, comme dans l'essence de leur Gouvernement; et il nous autorise à croire que quand même la retraite des Représentants de la Russie, de la Grande Bretagne, de la France, et de la Prusse (celle de l'Internonce d'Autriche est fort douteuse, d'après la réponse du Cabinet d'Autrichien) viendrait à s'effectuer, elle ne nous conduirait à l'objet de nos vœux qu'autant qu'elle serait ce qu'elle a presque toujours été dans la diplomatie, le signe infailible, si ce n'est la conséquence immédiate, de l'emploi d'une vraie force coercitive. Mais alors, comme nous l'avons observé, cette mesure en exige d'autres; elle exige donc aussi que ces autres mesures soient combinées, qu'elles soient arrêtées, et mises à exécution de concert. Nous ne prétendons pas dire par là qu'elle ne doive pas être employée, mais nous affirmons que si elle est seule, elle peut être insuffisante; que dans ce cas les Puissances alliées auront compromis leur dignité sans avoir avisé aux moyens de la soutenir; qu'un tel inconvénient doit être prévu, parce qu'il est possible, et que par conséquent on doit s'entendre dès à présent sur des résolutions qui puissent nous en préserver.

La seconde proposition que nous avons fait à nos alliés d'accord avec le Cabinet de St. James se présente sous un double point de vue. Elle consiste dans l'idée d'annoncer à la Porte qu'en rejetant nos ouvertures elle opérerait un rapprochement entre les Grecs et les Cours intervenantes, qui pourraient se décider à reconnaître un jour leur entière indépendance. Il nous semble que cette idée offre incontestablement un côté utile. Un rapprochement avec les Grecs procurerait l'occasion d'arracher ce peuple au double fléau des dissensions intestines et des influences révolutionnaires qui l'agitent; mais considéré sous le rapport de l'effet qu'il produirait sur le Divan, le second moyen de négociation ne paraît-il pas moins décisif encore que le précédent, et peut-il être couronné de succès? La pénétration des Turcs leur suffira sans doute pour distinguer de prime abord que ce n'est pas

dans son état actuel que la Grèce peut être reconnue par les premiers Cours de l'Europe ; elle leur suffira pour prendre la résolution de presser la guerre, afin de répondre par la destruction des Grecs à la vaine menace des Cabinets alliés. Cependant les inconvénients si graves qui ont motivé la signature du Protocole du ^{23 Mars}_{4 Avril} subsisteraient dans toute leur force. La lutte se prolongerait ; elle ferait appréhender les mêmes résultats ; les actes de piraterie réclameraient les mêmes mesures de répression ; le commerce éprouverait les mêmes entraves, les mêmes dangers ; la position de la Russie à l'égard de la Porte continuerait à être également précaire ; et enfin dans la supposition où les Cours alliés voudraient réaliser leur menace, la reconnaissance de l'indépendance Grecque serait-elle facile ? Serait-elle conforme aux stipulations du Protocole du ^{23 Mars}_{4 Avril} ? Ne nous ferait-elle pas sortir des bornes de cet acte, ne nécessiterait-elle pas des arrangements nouveaux, et pourrait-on compter avec certitude sur le concours des Grandes Puissances Européennes pour les conclure ? Nous le répétons, la Russie a donné au mois de Septembre son assentiment à l'emploi de cette déclaration comminatoire, et elle ne le retire point. Il y a plus, elle n'ignore pas la nécessité d'épuiser les voies de conciliation, et elle s'estimerait essentiellement heureuse de voir ses présentiments déçus, et le Divan céder, soit au rappel des Ambassadeurs, soit à la menace de reconnaître un jour l'indépendance de la Grèce. Mais ses raisonnements la ramènent toujours d'une manière invincible à la conclusion que ce second moyen de négociation, s'il est uniquement adopté comme tel, peut n'être pas plus efficace que le premier, parcequ'il est difficile d'admettre que la perspective seule d'un mal incertain doive forcément vaincre l'opposition du Gouvernement Turc et que dès lors, dans cette hypothèse aussi, ce serait manquer de prévoyance, ce serait s'abandonner à de dangereuses illusions, que de ne pas calculer la possibilité d'un refus persévérant, et de ne pas combiner les mesures qu'elle réclame.

Les considérations que nous venons de rappeler ne se rapportent encore qu'au Protocole du ^{23 Mars}_{4 Avril}, mais combien n'acquerreraient-elles pas plus de forces si on les appliquait à un Traité en forme entre les premières Puissances de l'Europe ? S'il est vrai (et nous croyons difficile de révoquer en doute la justesse de cette assertion) que dans l'état présent des choses les Cours alliées se compromettraient en demandant l'adhésion de la Porte aux arrangements qui tendraient à la pacification de la Grèce, sans vouloir ou sans pouvoir l'obtenir, il est évident que leur défaite entraînerait des conséquences encore plus fâcheuses si elles essayaient cette résistance victorieuse après avoir signé un Traité mutuellement obligatoire, un Traité dont les clauses prendraient *ipso facto* le caractère le plus imposant. Autant l'Empereur sera empressé de conclure un Traité, autant il croirait inutile de revêtir de formes plus solennelles le Protocole du ^{23 Mars}_{4 Avril}, sans arrêter tout ensemble des mesures plus certaines pour son exécution. Selon nous ce serait négocier en pure perte, laisser s'écouler un tems précieux, et par conséquent agir contre le bien de l'affaire qu'il est urgent de terminer, et contre l'intérêt de la cause générale.

Cette affaire n'entre pas (nous pensons l'avoir assez démontré à plus d'une reprise depuis plusieurs années), cette affaire n'entre pas dans le domaine du droit commun. Si elle y entrait, la force des armes Turques aurait seule eu la privilège de trancher la question, et les Puissances Européennes ne seraient pas plus autorisées à conseiller au Grand Seigneur des sacrifices spontanés qu'à lui demander d'une manière péremptoire de souscrire aux arrangements dont le Protocole du ^{23 Mars}_{4 Avril} présente l'esquisse. Mais le droit se modifie, soit par l'impossibilité absolue de l'exercer dans son état primitif, soit lorsqu'en l'exercant on porte un préjudice visible à un tiers ; or, dans le cas de la Grèce ce tiers qui subit un vrai préjudice, c'est l'Europe. L'Europe, en effet, voit la haine arrivée entre les parties litigantes au point que la guerre, abandonnée à son propre cours, ne peut finir que par la destruction de l'une d'elles, et l'Europe a unanimement reconnue d'un côté que la destruction de tout un peuple Chrétien n'était pas un événement admissible pour la Chrétienté, de l'autre que l'état présent de la Grèce offre des inconvénients les plus graves, parcequ'il entretient dans tous les pays une agitation dangereuse, parcequ'il met des entraves au commerce, parcequ'il encourage la piraterie, parcequ'il commande des mesures de répression qui occasionnent des fraix considérables, parcequ'enfin une expérience de cinq années révolues a prouvé que le Gouvernement Turc est dans l'impossibilité d'y apporter un terme. Dans cette alternative l'Europe est plus qu'en droit, elle est en devoir d'exercer une intervention bienfaisante, et si son intervention est rejetée ses intérêts et ses besoins la forcent de faire respecter ce droit et ce devoir. Tels sont, suivant nous, les motifs généraux qui justifient le Protocole du ^{23 Mars}_{4 Avril}, et qui légitimeront éternellement aux yeux du

monde civilisé les résolutions qu'on adoptera pour l'exécution de cet Acte. La Russie l'a provoqué, parcequ'elle se sent sur la Russie que pèsent les inconvénients énumérés ci-dessus, parcequ'elle depuis cinq années elle les supporte avec une modération constante, et que toutefois elle ne saurait les supporter sans fin, parcequ'on ne peut pas lui demander de laisser un peuple qui professe sa religion, qui était un des plus utiles intermédiaires de son commerce, qui envoyait 300 vaisseaux dans les ports de ses provinces du midi, périr tout entier sous le glaive Musulman. Mais la Russie, en signant ce même Acte, loin de se réserver des avantages exclusifs, se les est interdits ; loin de vouloir anéantir les anciens droits de la Porte sur la Grèce, elle a proposé d'en modifier les formes extérieures, et d'en améliorer les résultats. Lors donc que la Russie réclame l'accomplissement du Protocole du ^{23 Mars}/_{4 Avril}, ce n'est pas son propre bien qu'elle poursuit, c'est le bien de l'Europe, c'est même le bien de l'Empire Ottoman qu'elle s'efforce d'assurer. Si ses principes à l'égard de la Grèce avaient été moins purs, si elle avait voulu se prévaloir de sa position et du droit de faire cesser une guerre dont elle se ressent plus vivement que les autres Puissances, il lui eût été facile de placer au nombre des conditions du Traité d'Akerman, et d'obtenir la pacification de la Morée et de l'Archipel. Toutefois, telle n'a pas été sa politique. Elle a mieux aimé conserver un caractère collectif à une affaire qu'elle avait déjà traitée collectivement, et renforcer son droit spécial d'arriver à la paix qu'elle désire, du droit des autres Gouvernements Européens. S'il en est résulté pour elle des retards, c'est une raison de plus qu'elle allègue afin de hâter aujourd'hui un événement qu'elle pouvait faire naître naguères sans le concours de ses alliés.

Les scrupules que manifeste la réponse du Cabinet Autrichien nous ont engagés dans cette explication, car pour les Puissances qui ont arrêté le Protocole, et pour celle qui propose de le convertir en Traité, ces doutes sont résolus, et la question se réduit à décider si elles veulent ou ne veulent pas réaliser des stipulations évidemment salutaires. A cet égard il nous semble que les antécédents ne leur accordent plus d'option. L'existence du Protocole du ^{23 Mars}/_{4 Avril} est connue des Turcs. Elle est connue des Grecs, puisque Mr. Stratford Canning les a informés qu'il n'attendait que l'arrivée de M. de Ribeaupierre pour effectuer des démarches en leur faveur. Elle est connue de l'Europe entière, puisque toutes les gazettes en ont déjà fait mention. Enfin, en dernier lieu, Mr. Stratford Canning a jugé le moment si propice aux négociations avec la Porte qu'il a témoigné le désir d'être soutenu sans délai par le Représentant de l'Empereur à Constantinople. Sa Majesté Impériale remplit avec trop de religion ses engagements pour qu'il lui fût possible de se refuser à cette demande, et nous nous sommes hâtés en conséquence d'expédier à M. de Minciaky l'instruction confidentielle dont copie ci-jointe. Ainsi, au moment où nous traçons ces lignes, l'attente générale est déjà excitée, peut-être même les premiers pas sont-ils faits, peut-être la discussion est-elle ouverte. Serait-il temps encore de reculer en décidant qu'on n'emploiera que des moyens de négociations dont le succès est douteux ? Nous ne le pensons pas. Si un commun intérêt a dicté le Protocole du ^{23 Mars}/_{4 Avril}, c'est maintenant l'honneur commun qui semble en commander l'exécution, et nous méconnaîtrions les principes qui dirigent la politique de nos alliés si nous insistions davantage sur une considération de cette nature. Mais il en est une autre que nous ne passerons pas sous silence. La conviction acquise par le Divan de l'accord qui existe entre la Russie et l'Angleterre au sujet de la Grèce, va forcément influencer sur l'état de nos relations avec la Porte. Elle va de nouveau l'aigir, elle va nous priver momentanément au moins de l'ascendant que devait nous procurer la Convention d'Akerman, et nos sacrifices augmenteront encore si nous sommes obligés de suspendre nos rapports diplomatiques avec le Cabinet de Constantinople. Plus cette position peut devenir fâcheuse, plus nous sommes en droit d'exiger qu'elle dure le moins possible, et que par une juste compensation elle serve à atteindre le but pour lequel nous aurons consenti à le subir. Ici encore l'intérêt de l'Europe s'accorde avec le nôtre, car notre situation à l'égard de la Porte étant précaire,—et elle le sera tant qu'une paix solide n'aura pas été rendue à la Grèce,—tous les autres Etats se trouvent essentiellement intéressés à opérer, par le rétablissement de cette paix si utile, notre complète et durable réconciliation avec l'Empire Ottoman. Admettre d'autres opinions sur ces deux points, ce serait croire, selon nous, ou qu'en signant le Protocole du ^{23 Mars}/_{4 Avril}, et en y accédant, on s'est proposé un objet important, avec la réserve de ne le poursuivre que par des voies qui n'y peuvent pas conduire, ou que nous avons nous-mêmes donné les mains à des négociations éternellement stériles, dont la seule conséquence serait de compromettre nos propres avantages ; conclusions que la raison seule

désavoue et que repousse d'ailleurs notre légitime confiance dans la bonne foi de nos alliés.

Convaincu de leur loyauté et de leurs lumières nous résumerons ici en peu de mots les observations et les décisions de Sa Majesté Impériale :—

1. L'Empereur consent à la proposition du Cabinet des Tuileries, de convertir en Traité le Protocole du ^{23 Mars} _{4 Avril} et la Russie signera ce Traité avec toutes les Puissances qui voudront le signer également. Pour en faciliter la négociation, l'Empereur consent même à ce qu'il soit discuté et conclu à Londres, et m'ordonne de vous munir à cet effet des pleins pouvoirs et instructions nécessaires.

2. L'Empereur ne pouvant admettre comme entièrement certain le succès des deux moyens coercitifs déjà arrêtés entre les Cours de St. Pétersbourg, de Londres, et de Paris, pour le cas où la Porte rejetterait leurs ouvertures, ne donne son consentement à la conclusion du Traité ci-dessus mentionné que sous la condition d'y faire insérer une clause secrète, ou d'y joindre, soit un Protocole, soit des déclarations séparées, spécifiant les mesures qui seraient prises par les Puissances Contractantes, dans la supposition où les deux moyens dont il vient d'être parlé ne seraient pas suffisants.

3. Pour mieux expliquer notre pensée, nous proposerons de graduer les moyens coercitifs en général de la manière suivante :—

(a.) Menace d'être forcé à un rapprochement immédiat avec les Grecs. Cette déclaration serait à notre avis plus efficace et moins compromettante que si on l'associait à l'expression du dessein de reconnaître un jour l'indépendance de la Grèce : moins compromettante, parcequ'elle ne nous ferait pas prendre un engagement peut-être impossible à remplir ; plus efficace, parcequ'elle serait d'une réalisation plus prompte. Le rapprochement s'opérerait moyennant l'envoi d'agents publics des Puissances Contractantes auprès des autorités Grecques.

(b.) Rappel des Représentants des Puissances Contractantes, si au bout d'un mois la menace d'un rapprochement avec les Grecs ne produit par l'effet désiré.

(c.) Si le rappel des Représentants n'amène pas dans le terme de quelques semaines l'adhésion de la Porte, adoption d'une mesure que l'Angleterre a signalée elle-même et dont l'efficacité ne semble pas douteuse, c'est-à-dire, réunion des escadres des Puissances Contractantes dans le but d'empêcher tout secours d'hommes, d'armes, ou de vaisseaux Egyptiens ou Turcs, d'arriver en Grèce ou dans l'Archipel. Ces mêmes escadres traiteraient dès lors les Grecs en amis.

(d.) Si, par impossible, cette mesure était encore insuffisante, clause portant que les Puissances Contractantes continueraient à poursuivre leur but, et qu'elles arrêteraient à cet effet des déterminations ultérieures, qu'on pourrait s'occuper à concerter dès à présent.

Nous avons déduit les motifs impérieux qui nous engagent à proposer cette marche, et nous terminerons la présente en abordant avec la même franchise les objections que nos idées peuvent faire naître.

Il est possible d'abord qu'on ne se rende pas aux arguments qui nous paraissent établir la vérité de nos assertions relativement au peu de succès que peuvent avoir les deux moyens coercitifs déjà concertés entre la Russie, la Grande Bretagne, et la France. Mais de deux choses l'une : ou l'on a la ferme conviction que ces moyens sont suffisants, et alors on ne s'expose à aucun risque en concertant des résolutions ultérieures que l'on peut appréhender, mais que l'on serait sûr de ne pas accomplir ; ou bien on n'a pas cette conviction, et alors nous ne saurions concevoir comment on joindrait le refus d'arrêter d'autres mesures au désir d'exécuter le Protocole du ^{23 Mars} _{4 Avril}.

Il est possible encore que la crainte d'en venir à une véritable guerre contre les Turcs produise une juste hésitation. Ici nous invoquerons et notre expérience récente et le témoignage de Mr. Stratford Canning. Cet Ambassadeur croit le moment favorable aux négociations avec la Porte, parceque la Porte est hors d'état de nous opposer une résistance réelle. La Convention d'Akerman en offre la preuve, mais elle prouve aussi que la Porte ne cède qu'à une nécessité évidente. Il a fallu, pour ainsi dire, qu'elle vit briller nos armes pour déférer à nos vœux. Nous pouvons donc présumer qu'il en sera de même dans les affaires Grecques ; qu'elle n'admettra nos propositions que quand elle verra les alliés irrévocablement décidés et déjà prêts à agir, mais qu'elle les admettra avant qu'ils n'agissent en effet.

Du reste, quand même des hostilités auraient lieu, l'issue en serait assurée et le but déterminé d'avance. C'est vers ce but, et ce but seul, que les engagements de la Russie lui imposeraient le devoir de marcher. C'est vers ce but que la dirigeraient encore ses propres intérêts, car les résultats de la Convention d'Akerman,

joint à la pacification de la Grèce, nous laisseraient-ils rien à désirer? Et les vœux des autres Cours de l'Europe ne seraient-ils pas également exaucés quand elles verraient ainsi disparaître tous les anciens germes de ces alarmantes discussions qui s'élevaient entre le Cabinet de Pétersbourg et l'Empire Ottoman? Jamais, nous osons l'affirmer, entreprise plus utile n'aurait été tentée avec plus de gages de sécurité et de réussite, dans la guerre et dans la paix.

Votre Altesse est autorisé à communiquer cette dépêche au Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique.

Recevez, &c.
(Signé) NESSELRODE.

(Translation.)

Prince,

St. Petersburg, June 21, 1827.

I HAVE lost no time in placing before the Emperor the reports received from your Highness, dated the ^{23rd November} ~~5th December~~ last. But as your despatches informed us of the fresh communications which the Representatives of Russia and Great Britain were about to address to the Cabinets of Vienna, of Paris, and of Berlin, relative to the negotiations for the pacification of the Levant, it was necessary, before returning you a reply, to wait till we were informed, which we could not fail to be without much delay, as to the manner in which these communications were received on the part of our allies.

Now, however, that the opinions of the Austrian and French Foreign Offices are before us, and a special proposal having emanated from the latter, we shall touch in the present despatch upon the negotiations which have passed between you and the Principal Secretary of State of Her Britannic Majesty, and which followed upon our despatches of the 29th September and the overtures of the Courts of Austria and France.

The first impression which they have made upon the Emperor is one of sincere and lively satisfaction, a feeling which results from the reciprocal confidence of which they so happily afford proof. We shall endeavour to justify this feeling, so far as we are concerned, by a frankness which we regard as the sole mode of preserving with our allies those relations of friendship and intimacy whose value is augmented by the present condition of Europe.

Your conversations with Mr. Canning, and the communications which we have just addressed to the Courts of Vienna, of Paris, and of Berlin, related chiefly to decisions to be arrived at in case the measures we have taken for the re-establishment of peace in Greece should fail of success at Constantinople. France has adopted the views we hold in common on this point; and, on her side, has made to us a proposition which would give the more binding and solemn character of a European Treaty to the preliminary stipulations to which we agreed with the Cabinet of St. James in the Protocol of ^{23rd March} ~~4th April~~.

In the same degree that the pacification of Greece has always seemed to us the necessary result of our other negotiations with the Ottoman Porte, we have always conceived it to be indispensable to the general welfare of Europe and to our own interests; in short, the more we have insisted upon the advantages of an agreement upon this subject among the principal Christian States, and the more benefits we discover in the propositions put forward by the Cabinet of the Tuileries, the more eager must we be to welcome them. What still further induces us to adhere to them is, that Mr. Canning himself lately admitted that it would be expedient to see the other allied Courts become Contracting Parties to the Protocol we have signed at St. Petersburg with the Duke of Wellington; and that, after that, we cannot doubt that the Government of His Britannic Majesty will lend itself to the wish expressed by the Court of France. But it is not enough to conclude a Treaty in such circumstances—it is necessary to combine for its execution; and as two preliminary modes of execution have already been mentioned by the Cabinets of St. Petersburg and London, the question for us to discuss is whether, according to the most probable calculations, these means are sufficient to enable the Courts who employ them to obtain what they desire, and if the conclusion of a Treaty does not impose upon us the duty of determining eventually the most effectual measures to be adopted.

The subject is so important that we do not hesitate to reproduce here the observations which we have already had occasion to offer.

Our first remarks will relate to the nature itself of the means above mentioned,

upon which we have recently called the attention of our allies. To satisfy ourselves to what extent we may anticipate success from them we will examine, in the first place, the difficulties to which they may be exposed; we will judge of them by the only criterions we possess for judging of the future—the experience of the past and the nearly analogous cases which have been offered by previous negotiations with the Porte; and we shall see if we have grounds for anticipating the speedy solution of the difficulties which we must expect to encounter. Great Britain proposed to us in the month of September 1826, to decree, in principle, that if the Porte obstinately refused to listen to the overtures which might be made to it, the Powers who intervened should recall their Representatives at Constantinople, and that they should show themselves disposed at some future day to recognize the independence of Greece. The first of these measures is conditional in the estimation of the Cabinets of London and Paris. They would adopt it only if it was simultaneously taken by all the Powers who might demand the pacification of Greece. The second would be for the present but a simple menace which subsequent events might or might not realize. Neither of these measures has been opposed by us, but neither again has inspired us with full confidence, and we should place not only ourselves but our allies in a false position if we withheld from them our opinion that if these methods of negotiation were the only ones to which recourse was to be had, we should conceive ourselves to be entering upon one of the most difficult problems ever offered to diplomacy, with but little likelihood of arriving at a satisfactory conclusion. The recall of the Ambassadors should be simultaneous. We appreciate perfectly the motives which make this accord desirable, and we are the first to recognize its advantages. But, on the one hand, it does not yet exist, and, perhaps, with the conditions which the Court of Vienna wishes to place upon it, is not likely ever to be established. On the other hand, we perceive that in the last instructions to Mr. Stratford Canning, the English Minister orders him not to quit Constantinople, even should the accord in question be realized, without express authorization. Our doubts, therefore, of the efficacy of this measure must be in proportion to the uncertainty there is as to its adoption. But we will go still further. We will suppose that this measure, namely, the recall of the Ambassadors, will be fully adopted. Is it clearly shown, and can we be assured that it will produce a sufficiently strong impression, and that the moment the Representatives of the allied Courts quit Constantinople the Divan will change its politics and its language? This change does not appear certain to us, and our apprehensions are founded on experience. In 1821 Russia found herself forced repeatedly to employ strong menaces towards the Porte, she was forced to break off her diplomatic and commercial relations with it, and, nevertheless, she did not obtain the adhesion of the Turkish Government to her first demands. It will be objected, no doubt, that if the recall of the Ambassadors were simultaneous we might fairly anticipate a better result. Our reply, nevertheless, is that the fear of a hand-to-hand struggle with Russia is one of those which act most powerfully at Constantinople.

The menaces used from time to time by Lord Stratford have only elicited false promises, violated almost as soon as they were made. Moreover our demands at these different periods were perhaps less directly opposed to the prejudices of the Turks than the demand that they should adhere to the bases of the Protocol of the ^{23rd March} _{18th April}, and if on the one side the arrangements whose principles are therein perpetuated are in conformity with the well-understood interests of the Ottoman Empire; yet we must be prepared, on the other, to combat in these circumstances all the errors that prejudice can inspire, and all the obstinacy that blind passions can impart. It is, moreover, an incontestible truth which the habit of negotiating with the Porte has revealed to us, that Oriental Governments are gifted with an extraordinary instinct for distinguishing simple demonstrations, of whatever character, from serious resolutions of which the accomplishment will not fail to follow the announcement. This is how Russia was for a long time unable to reap any fruit from her moderation, notwithstanding the menacing language addressed by her allies to the Porte, but how five months were sufficient to accomplish a work vainly attempted for ten consecutive years, as soon as an instructive perception, which never deceives them, warned the Turks that patience was exhausted, and that deeds would succeed to words. It is owing to a religious and political principle that Orientals enter into engagements only from absolute necessity; but, on the other hand, as soon as this necessity arises, the engagement is made. This system forms part of their faith, as of their customs, their traditions, and the essence of their

Government, and it authorizes us to believe that even if the recall of the Representatives of Russia, Great Britain, France, and Prussia (that of the Internuncio of Austria is very doubtful, judging by the reply of the Austrian Cabinet), should take place, it would only conduct us to the object of our wishes if it were, as it has almost always been in diplomacy, the infallible sign, if not the immediate consequence of the employment of a real coercive force. But, then, as we have observed, this measure necessitates others, it renders necessary also that these other measures should be combined, fixed upon, and executed in concert. We do not wish to say by this that it should not be employed; but we affirm that alone it may be insufficient that in this case the allied Powers will have compromised their dignity without having devised measures to sustain it; that this inconvenience being possible, should be guarded against, and that, therefore, an understanding should at once be arrived at as to the resolutions which may preserve us from it.

The second proposition which we, together with the Court of St. James have made to our allies; presents itself from two points of view. It consists in the idea of announcing to the Porte that by rejecting our overtures, she would cause closer relations between the Greeks and the intervening Courts, who might decide upon recognizing on some future day their entire independence. This idea appears, from one point of view, beneficial. A reconciliation with the Greeks would give an opportunity to rescue this people from the double scourge of the intestine dissensions, and that of revolutionary influences which agitate it; but considered with regard to the effect it would produce upon the Divan, does not this second means of negotiation appear even less decisive than the former, and can it be crowned with success? The penetration of the Turks would doubtless enable them at once to distinguish that Greece in its present state cannot be recognized by the first Courts of Europe; it would enable them to take the resolution of hastening the war, in order to reply by the destruction of the Greeks to the vain menace of the allied Cabinets. Meanwhile the grave inconveniences which led to the signature of the Protocol of the ^{23 March}_{4 April}, would continue in all their force. The struggle would be prolonged, the same results would be apprehended, acts of piracy would require the same measures for repression, commerce would be subject to the same hindrances, the same dangers, the position of Russia with regard to the Porte would continue to be equally precarious, and finally, supposing that the allied Courts should wish to realize their menace, would the recognition of Greek independence be easy? Would it be in conformity with the stipulations of the Protocol of the ^{23 March}_{4 April}? Would it not lead us beyond the limits of that act, would it not necessitate new arrangements, and could the concurrence of the great European Powers be counted upon with certainty to conclude them? We repeat that Russia, in the month of September, gave her consent to the employment of this menacing declaration, and she will not withdraw it. And, moreover, she does not ignore the necessity of exhausting the means of conciliation, and would esteem herself essentially happy to find her presentiments unfulfilled and the Divan giving way, either at the recall of the Ambassadors, or at the threat of some day recognizing the independence of Greece. But her arguments always bring her back with unassailable force, to the conclusion that this second means of negotiation, if it is solely adopted as such, may be no more efficacious than the first, because it is difficult to admit that the prospect alone of an uncertain evil must necessarily overcome the opposition of the Turkish Government, and that therefore in this hypothesis also it would be a want of foresight, and a yielding to dangerous illusions, not to calculate the possibility of a continued refusal, and not to combine the measures required by it.

The considerations we have now stated are so far in relation to the Protocol of the ^{23rd March}_{10th April}, but how much more weight would they not acquire if they are applied to a formal Treaty between the first Powers of Europe. If it is true (and we think it is difficult to question the correctness of this assertion) that in the present state of things the allied Courts would be compromised by demanding the adhesion of the Porte to arrangements tending to the pacification of Greece without wishing for it, or without being able to obtain it, it is evident that their failure would be followed by still more grievous consequences if they suffered this victorious resistance after having signed a mutually obligatory Treaty, a Treaty of which the clauses would assume *ipso facto* the most imposing character, the more willing the Emperor is to conclude a Treaty, the more useless he will think it to invest the Protocol of the ^{23rd March}_{10th April} with a more solemn form without laying down altogether more certain measures for its execution. According to us, it would be to negotiate

to no purpose, to allow valuable time to pass, and consequently to act against the particular interest of the affair before us which it is essential to terminate, and against the welfare of the general cause.

This affair does not entrench upon (as we think we have sufficiently shown at different times for some years) the domain of common right. If it did, the force of the Turkish arms would alone be privileged to decide the question, and the European Powers would not be more authorized to counsel spontaneous sacrifices to the Sultan than to require him in a peremptory manner to subscribe to the arrangements of which the Protocol of the ^{23rd March}_{4th April} presents the sketch. But this right is modified, either by the absolute impossibility of exercising it in its original state, or when the exercise of it would be obviously prejudicial to a third party; now in the case of Greece, this third party who suffers a real injury is Europe. Europe, in effect, sees that the hatred between the litigant parties has arrived to such a point that the war, if left to its own course, can only finish by the destruction of one of them, and Europe has unanimously agreed that, on the one hand, the destruction of a whole Christian people was not an event admissible by Christianity; and on the other, that the present state of Greece offers inconveniences of the gravest nature, because it maintains a dangerous agitation in all countries, because it shackles commerce, because it encourages piracy, because it necessitates measures of repression, which occasion considerable expenditure, because finally the experience of five years past has proved that the Turkish Government finds it impossible to put an end to it. In this alternative Europe has more than a right; it is her duty to exercise a benevolent intervention, and if her intervention is rejected, her interests and her requirements force her to cause this right and this duty to be respected. Such are, in our opinion, the general motives which justify the Protocol of the ^{23rd March}_{4th April}, and which will eternally justify in the eyes of the civilized world the resolutions which will be adopted for the execution of this Act. Russia has provoked it, because it is upon Russia that the above enumerated inconveniences weigh, because for five years she has supported them with constant moderation, and yet she cannot support them for ever, because she cannot be required to allow a people which professes her religion, which was one of the most useful intermediaries of her commerce, which sent 300 vessels to the ports of her southern provinces, perish entirely by the sword of the Mussulman. But Russia in signing the said Act, far from reserving to herself exclusive advantages, has refused them, far from wishing to annul the ancient rights of the Porte over Greece, she has proposed to modify their exterior forms and to ameliorate their results. When, therefore, Russia claims the accomplishment of the Protocol of the ^{23rd March}_{4th April} it is not the Ottoman Empire that she seeks to strengthen. If her principles with regard to Greece had been less pure, if she had wished to take advantage of her position and of her right to put a stop to a war of which she feels the effects more than the other Powers, it would have been easy for her to have placed among the conditions of the Treaty of Akerman, and to have obtained the pacification of the Morea and the Archipelago. Such, nevertheless, has not been her policy, she has preferred to preserve a collective character to an affair which she had already treated collectively, and to reinforce her special right to arrive at the peace which she desires by the right of the other European Governments. If the result for her has been delay, it is one reason more which she alleges in order to hasten an event now which she could formerly have brought about without the concurrence of her allies.

The scruples manifested in the reply of the Austrian Cabinet have engaged us in this explanation; for as to the Powers who laid down the Protocol those doubts are resolved, and the question to decide reduces itself to whether they will or will not realize stipulations which are evidently salutary. In this respect, it appears to us, that antecedents leave them no option. The existence of the Protocol of the ^{23rd March}_{4th April} is known to the Turks. It is known to the Greeks, since Mr. Stratford Canning has informed them that he was only awaiting the arrival of M. de Ribeaupierre to take steps in their favour. It is known to the whole of Europe, as all newspapers have already made mention of it. And, in the last place, Mr. Stratford Canning has judged the present moment to be so propitious for negotiations with the Porte that he has expressed the wish to be supported without delay by the Representative of the Emperor at Constantinople. His Imperial Majesty fulfils his engagements too religiously for it to be possible for him to refuse this request, and we consequently hastened to send to M. Minciaky the confidential instructions of which a copy is annexed at the moment we trace these lines.

General attention is already excited, the first steps are taken, the discussion is perhaps opened. Is there now time to draw back by deciding that means of negotiation of which the success is doubtful, shall alone be employed? We think not. If a common interest dictated the Protocol of the ^{23rd March}_{4th April}, common honour now seems to command its execution, and we should misunderstand the principles which direct the policy of our allies, if we insisted further upon a consideration of this nature. But there is another which we will not pass by in silence. The conviction on the part of the Divan, that the unanimity which exists between Russia and England on the subjects of Greece, will necessarily influence the state of our relations with the Porte. It will again embitter them, it will deprive us momentarily at least of the ascendancy which the Convention of Akerman should have gained for us, and our sacrifices will be still further augmented if we are obliged to suspend our diplomatic relations with the Court of Constantinople. The more this position may become grievous, the more right we have to exact that it shall continue as short a time as possible, and that by a just compensation, it shall serve to attain the end for which we have consented to submit to it. Here again the interest of Europe is in accordance with ours, for our situation with regard to the Porte being precarious—and it will be so as long as a solid peace is not restored to Greece—all the other States find themselves essentially interested in operating, by the re-establishment of this useful peace, our complete and durable reconciliation with the Ottoman Empire. To admit other opinions on these two points would be to believe, according to us, either that in signing the Protocol of ^{March 23}_{April 4} and in acceding to it, an important object has been proposed, with the reservation of only pursuing it by means which can never lead to it, or that we ourselves have lent ourselves to negotiations eternally sterile, and whose only consequence would be to compromise our own advantages, a conclusion which reason alone disavows, and which is also repelled by our legitimate confidence in the good faith of our allies.

Convinced of their loyalty and intelligence we will here give in few words a digest of the observations and decisions of His Imperial Majesty.

1. The Emperor consents to the proposition of the Cabinet of the Tuileries to convert into a Treaty the Protocol of ^{March 23}_{April 4}; and Russia will sign this Treaty with all the Powers who choose equally to sign it. To facilitate its negotiation the Emperor even consents that it should be discussed and concluded at London, and orders me to furnish you to that effect with the full powers and necessary instructions.

2. The Emperor not being able to admit as entirely certain the success of the two coercive measures already fixed by the Courts of St. Petersburg, London, and Paris, in case the Porte should reject their overtures, only gives his consent to the above-mentioned Treaty on the condition of inserting a secret clause, or of joining to it either a Protocol or Separate Declarations, specifying the measures which would be taken by the Contracting Powers supposing that the two measures just spoken of should be insufficient.

3. In order to explain our idea more clearly, we shall propose to graduate the coercive measures in general in the following manner:—

(a.) Menace of being forced to an immediate reconciliation with the Greeks. This Declaration would be, in our opinion, more efficacious and less compromising than if it were joined to the expression of the design of some day recognizing the independence of Greece: less compromising, because it would not make me take an engagement which might be impossible to fulfil; more efficacious, because its realization would be more prompt. The reconciliation would be brought about by means of sending public Agents from the Contracting Powers to the Greek authorities.

(b.) Recall of the Representatives of the Contracting Powers, if, at the end of a month, the menace of reconciliation with the Greeks does not produce the desired effect.

(c.) If the recall of the Representatives does not induce, within weeks, the adherence of the Porte, the adoption of a measure which England has herself indicated, and of which the efficacy does not appear doubtful, viz., union of the squadrons of the Contracting Powers, with the object of preventing all help of men, arms, or of Egyptian or Turkish vessels, from arriving in Greece or in the Archipelago. These squadrons would thenceforward treat the Greeks as friends.

(d.) If, which seems impossible, this measure was still insufficient, a clause bearing that the Contracting Powers would continue to pursue their end, and that

they would, for that purpose, lay down ulterior determinations which they might occupy themselves from this time by concerting.

We have deduced the imperious motives which engage us to propose this step, and we will terminate the present by attacking the objections which our ideas may raise.

It is possible, to begin with, that the arguments may not convince, which appear to us to establish the truth of our assertions relative to the small success that may attend the two coercive measures already concerted between Russia, Great Britain, and France. But one of two things must happen: either there is a firm conviction that these measures are sufficient, and then no risk is run in concerting ulterior resolutions which might be apprehended, but which it would be certain would not be accomplished; or else there is not this conviction, and then we cannot conceive how a refusal to arrange other measures could be joined to the desire to execute the Protocol of the ^{23rd March}_{4th April}.

It is also impossible that the fear of coming to a real war with the Turks should produce a just hesitation. Here we will invoke our recent experience, and the testimony of Mr. Stratford Canning. This Ambassador believes the moment favourable for negotiations with the Porte, because the Porte is not in a state to oppose a real resistance to us. The Convention of Akerman is a proof of it, but it also proves that the Porte only cedes to an evident necessity. She has required, so to say, to see the glitter of our arms before deferring to our wishes. We may then presume that it will be the same in Greek affairs, that she will not admit our propositions till she sees the allies irrevocably decided, and already prepared to act, but that she will admit them before they really do act.

Besides, even should hostilities take place, the issue would be certain, and the object determined beforehand. It is towards this object, and this object alone, that the engagements of Russia would impose on her the duty of advancing. It is to this object again that her own interests would direct her, for would the results of the Convention of Akerman, joined to the pacification of Greece, leave us anything to desire? And would not the wishes of the other Courts of Europe be equally satisfied when they would thus witness the disappearance of all the ancient germs of those alarming discussions which arose between the Cabinet of St. Petersburg and the Ottoman Empire? Never, we venture to affirm, would a more useful enterprise have been attempted with more pledges of security and success in war and in peace.

Your Highness is authorized to communicate this despatch to the Principal Secretary of State of Her Britannic Majesty.

Receive, &c.
(Signed) NESSELRODE.

No. 10.

Count Nesselrode to Prince Lieven.—(Communicated to Mr. Canning by Prince Lieven, May 6.)

Mon Prince,

St. Pétersbourg, le ⁶/₁₈ Avril, 1827.

A LA suite d'une longue attente le Comte de Bombelles vient de nous communiquer enfin les instructions dont la Cour de Vienne a muni son Ambassadeur près Sa Majesté Britannique relativement au projet de Traité que nous avons invité nos alliés à conclure pour la pacification de la Grèce.

Quand la présente vous parviendra, mon Prince, vous aurez déjà eu le tems de juger les opinions de l'Autriche, et vous connaissez trop les principes ainsi que les vœux de l'Empereur pour n'avoir pas pressenti que Sa Majesté Imperiale serait vivement au regret de voir la Cour de Vienne persister, en ce qui regarde la pacification de la Grèce, dans des idées que nous avons si souvent combattues, les appuyer d'arguments que l'expérience réfute, altérer les bases du Protocole du ^{23 Mars}_{4 Avril} en subordonnant à des conditions nouvelles les arrangements qui auraient pour objet de rendre la paix à la Turquie d'Europe, ne pas adhérer aux mesures coercitives dont l'adoption nous paraît indispensable dans le cas où la Porte n'opposerait que des refus opiniâtres à nos justes demandes, indiquer elle-même dans cette hypothèse le moyen décisif, sans doute, d'une rupture, mais se hâter d'en détruire aussitôt tout l'effet, n'en faire qu'une vaine menace et en soumettre le réel emploi à toutes les chances d'une négociation ultérieure, dont rien ne réglerait la marche, dont rien n'autoriserait à prévoir le terme.

Certes de telles ouvertures sont loin de répondre aux espérances que nous donnait l'expédition de M. de Tatischeff, dont j'ai adressé copie à votre Altesse sous la date du 11 Mars, et surtout la dépêche No. 18, qu'il avait mise sous les yeux du Prince de Metternich, et que ce Ministre avait approuvée dans toute sa teneur. Au surplus, quel que soit le système que suive l'Autriche, ou qu'elle se propose de suivre dans les affaires d'Orient, la détermination de Sa Majesté l'Empereur est irrévocablement arrêtée. Nous avons déclaré avec une entière franchise, dès qu'il s'est agi sérieusement de l'exécution du Protocole du ^{23 Mars}_{4 Avril}, qu'une fois engagés dans la question du rétablissement de la paix entre les Grecs et les Turcs, il ne serait plus en notre pouvoir de revenir sur nos pas; que toute démarche à ce sujet compromettrait pour nous le résultat principal de la Convention d'Akerman; que par conséquent nous n'entamerions l'affaire qu'avec l'inébranlable résolution de la terminer. Or, cette démarche a eu lieu; elle a été faite par l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Britannique à Constantinople; elle n'a été appuyée qu'à sa demande par l'Agent de Sa Majesté Impériale, et c'est encore d'après ses instances, c'est de concert avec lui, qu'elle a été renouvelée par M. de Ribeaupierre. Dans un pareil état de choses l'Empereur ne saurait reculer devant les conséquences des engagements qu'il a pris et des propositions qu'il a soutenues. Accepter maintenant une réponse négative de la part des Turcs, ce serait renoncer de la nôtre, à la considération que nos négociations de l'année 1826 nous ont fait acquérir auprès de la Porte; ce serait la perdre aux yeux même du reste de l'Europe. Sa Majesté Impériale ne pourra jamais consentir à ce double sacrifice, et la pacification de la Grèce, aux termes du Protocole du ^{23 Mars}_{4 Avril}, devient pour la Russie une nécessité à laquelle il lui est désormais impossible de se soustraire.

Nous nous flattons, mon Prince, que voyant cette nécessité et la partageant, puisque d'un côté l'Angleterre a signé le Protocole du ^{23 Mars}_{4 Avril} et que de l'autre c'est son Ambassadeur qui a abordé le premier avec la Porte la question du rétablissement de la paix dans le Levant, le Cabinet de Londres a déjà adhéré sans réserve aux principes et aux mesures qu'indique le projet de Traité dont vous lui avez donné connaissance, quelles que soient à cet égard les résolutions du Cabinet de Vienne. Sans doute il les déplorera comme nous; mais comme nous aussi, loin de se laisser détourner par elles d'une entreprise utile, loin de rejeter les seuls moyens qui puissent en assurer le succès, il sentira le besoin de redoubler d'efforts pour accomplir cette œuvre salutaire, tout en accordant à l'Autriche la pleine liberté de suivre la politique qu'elle juge la plus convenable.

Nous exprimons le même espoir au Cabinet de Tuileries, et c'est par l'entremise du Comte Pozzo di Borgo que nous adressons à votre Altesse la présente dépêche.

L'intention de Sa Majesté est que vous en fassiez communication au Principal Secrétaire d'Etat.

Recevez, &c.
(Signé) NESSELRODE.

(Translation.)

Prince,

St. Petersburg, April ⁶/₁₈, 1827.

AFTER some delay Count Bombelles has at length communicated to us the instructions which the Court of Vienna has furnished by its Ambassador to His Britannic Majesty relative to the projected Treaty which we have invited our allies to conclude for the pacification of Greece.

When this reaches you, you will already have had time to judge of the opinions of Austria, and you are too well aware of the principles as well as the wishes of the Emperor not to have foreseen that His Imperial Majesty will deeply regret to find the Court of Vienna determined to persist, with regard to the pacification of Greece, in ideas which we have so often opposed, to support them by arguments which experience refutes, to alter the bases of the Protocol of ^{23 March}_{4 April}, subjecting to fresh conditions arrangements whose object would be the restoration of peace in European Turkey, not adhering to the coercive measures the adoption of which appears to us indispensable in case the Porte should oppose only obstinate refusals to our just demands, herself indicating in this hypothesis the undoubtedly decisive measures of a rupture, but hastening immediately to destroy its whole effect, to render it only a vain menace, and to subject its employment to all the chances of an ulterior negotiation of which nothing could regulate the progress nor enable the end to be foreseen.

Such overtures are certainly far from replying to the hopes which we had

conceived from the despatch of M. Tatitscheff, of which I addressed a copy to your Highness dated the 11th March, and especially the despatch No. 18, which he placed before Prince Metternich, and which that Minister approved of in its whole tenor. Moreover, whatever may be the system which Austria follows, or proposes to follow, in Eastern affairs, the determination of His Majesty the Emperor is irrevocably fixed. We declared with complete frankness, as soon as it became seriously a question of the execution of the Protocol of ^{23 March}_{4 April} that, when once engaged in the question of the re-establishment of peace between the Greeks and Turks, it would no longer be in our power to retrace our steps, that any step on this subject would compromise the principal result of the Convention of Akerman for us, that consequently we would only enter upon the affair with the immovable resolution of terminating it. Now this step has been taken it has been made by the Ambassador of His Britannic Majesty at Constantinople, it was only supported at his request by the Agent of His Imperial Majesty, and it is again through his solicitations and in concert with him that it has been renewed by M. de Ribaupierre. In such a state of things, the Emperor cannot draw back from the consequences of the engagements which he has taken, and the propositions which he has supported. To accept now a negative response on the part of the Turks, would be to renounce on ours the prestige which our negotiations of 1826 acquired for us at the Porte, it would be to lose it in the eyes of all Europe. His Majesty could never consent to this double sacrifice, and the pacification of Greece, upon the terms of the Protocol of the ^{23rd March}_{4th April}, becomes for Russia a necessity from which she cannot escape.

We flatter ourselves that, seeing and sharing this necessity, since, on the one side, England has signed the Protocol of the ^{23rd March}_{4th April}, and, on the other, it was her Ambassador who first opened the question of the re-establishment of peace in the Levant at the Porte, the Cabinet of London has already adhered without reserve to the principles and measures indicated in the projected Treaty which you have made known to it, whatever may be in this respect the resolutions of the Cabinet of Vienna. It will, doubtless, deplore them, as we do; but, like us also, far from allowing itself to be turned away by them from a beneficial enterprize, far from rejecting the only measure which can insure its success, it will feel the necessity of redoubling its efforts to accomplish this salutary work, while leaving Austria full liberty to follow the policy she may judge most suitable.

We express the same hope to the Cabinet of the Tuileries, and we address the present despatch to your Highness through Count Pozzo di Borgo.

It is His Majesty's intention that you should communicate it to the Principal Secretary of State.

Receive, &c.
(Signed) NESSELRODE.

Correspondence with Russia relative to the Affairs of
Greece, previous to the Conclusion of the Treaty
of July 6, 1827.

*Presented to the House of Lords by Command
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